

Bonn to study Lebanon aid

BONN (AP) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel on Wednesday asked West German officials for help in rebuilding his strife-torn nation, a government ministry spokesman said. Mr. Gemayel had a working lunch with Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and held separate talks with Hans Klein, minister for economic development, and Hans Stercken, chairman of parliament's foreign affairs committee. Details of Mr. Gemayel's talks were not disclosed. Manfred Obleander, Mr. Klein's spokesman, said Mr. Gemayel asked for assistance in development projects including one to restore electricity and get children back into schools. Mr. Klein said the "government was prepared to discuss the manner and extent to which it can help with these programmes," Obleander said. He said the West German embassy would discuss the projects with the Lebanese government in the coming months. Obleander did not say how much money West Germany was prepared to spend on the projects.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الزاقي

Nasser's son linked to Cairo attackers

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian authorities have linked Gamal Abdul Nasser's eldest son with assailants who killed two Israelis and wounded two American diplomats in the last three years, a prominent newspaper columnist said Wednesday. "He is involved in it. It is very embarrassing that he is the son of Nasser," he will be brought to court," said Ahmad Bahaaeddin, columnist for the state-run Al-Ahram who is known to be close to the government. Speaking to foreign correspondents, Bahaaeddin was asked to comment on rumours that Nasser's son had been involved in the Israeli embassy attack in Cairo for a month that Khaled Abdul Nasser was involved in four attacks on Israelis and Americans from 1983 to 1987. An administrative attaché and a female employee of the Israeli embassy were killed, and six Israelis and the two Americans were wounded. A group calling itself "Egypt's Revolution," unknown before the first attack, claimed responsibility for all four in letters delivered to Western news agencies. The elder Nasser was Republican Egypt's first president and an active promoter of pan-Arab unity until he died in 1970.

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Royal Decree okays civil service rules

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued approving the new code of civil service regulations earlier approved by the Cabinet. The new system will come into effect as of the beginning of 1988.

Assad to visit Romania on Monday

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad will make an official visit to Romania on Monday amid renewed international efforts to stage Middle East peace talks and end the Gulf war. The Syrian News Agency (SANA) said on Tuesday Mr. Assad would be making the trip at the invitation of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Iraq and Japan sign cooperation pact

BAGHDAD (AP) — Japan and Iraq signed a new trade and technical cooperation agreement, it was announced here Wednesday. The agreement was signed Tuesday night following three days of talks between Takakazu Kuriyama, an under-secretary at the Japanese Foreign Ministry, and Iraq's Deputy Housing and Reconstruction Minister Abdul Mutaalib Al Oraibi, the announcement added. Neither side disclosed details of the accord. The Japanese envoy conceded in a speech during the signing ceremony however that "we could not solve all our problems." Nevertheless the two sides "now have a good base for the further expansion of cooperation," he told reporters.

Freed W. German flies home from Iraq

FRANKFURT (R) — West German Jacob Petross returned home from Baghdad on Wednesday after being freed from a 20-year prison sentence for spying. A West German embassy spokesman in Baghdad said Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had freed Petross as a goodwill gesture, marking last week's visit to Iraq by Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Genscher to visit Egypt

BONN (R) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher will visit Egypt from Dec. 7 to 9 in the latest in a series of trips to Middle Eastern states, his office said on Wednesday. Mr. Genscher held talks last week in Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Jordan focusing on the Gulf war and the outcome of the recent Arab summit in Amman.

U.N. demands S. African pullout from Angola

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council unanimously demanded on Wednesday that South Africa unconditionally withdraw all its forces from Angola, where they have been involved in heavy fighting in recent weeks. The resolution also strongly condemned South Africa or its "continued and intensified acts of aggression" against Angola and requested Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to report back by Dec. 9.

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King visits Syria, returns after talks with Assad

His Majesty also expected to visit Iraq in pursuit of speeded-up Damascus-Baghdad normalisation

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein on Wednesday paid a working visit to Damascus and held talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in what was seen as the beginning of an effort to speed up the normalisation of relations between Syria and Iraq.

The King's talks with President Assad, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, dealt with implementation of decisions taken at the Nov. 8-11 extraordinary Arab summit in Amman where His Majesty crowned his efforts to reconcile the Syrian leader and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein by arranging a meeting between them on the fringes of the conference. Diplomats quoted by Reuters said the King was expected to push for an early resumption of diplomatic relations between Damascus and Baghdad.

Petra said the King's visit to Damascus was within the framework of continued consultations and coordination between Jordan and Syria in the wake of the summit meeting and its resolutions.

The King held a closed meeting with Mr. Assad on Wednesday after an enlarged round of talks attended by senior officials from both sides. On the Jordanian side, it was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and the Jordanian ambassador to Syria, Mr. Ali Khreis, and on the Syrian side it was attended by Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zu'bi and Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa. Mr. Rifai and Mr. Zu'bi also held a separate meeting during which they reviewed bilateral relations and cooperation, with special focus on joint projects, Petra said.

The two prime ministers exchanged documents of an agreement signed between the governments of the two countries and approved by the respective parliaments on building a dam across the Yarmouk River along the Syrian-Jordanian border.

President Assad hosted a lunch in honour of the King. It was attended by Mr. Rifai and senior Syrian officials. The King was accorded warm welcome and farewell ceremonies attended by President Assad upon his arrival in Damascus and departure late Wednesday.

Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said earlier this week that the King was expected to launch the bid for speeding up the normalisation process between Syria and Iraq this week. Informed sources said the King was expected to visit Iraq on Thursday to continue the mission.

(Continued on page 3)

Iraq warns Iran of 'suicidal path' as Tehran reports build-up

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iran said Wednesday it was continuing a military build-up for an expected new ground offensive against Iraq and the official Iraqi media warned Tehran that it had "chosen a suicidal path."

Iran also claimed its fighter-bombers hit a key bridge and supply route north of Basra, Iraq's second largest city, Wednesday, apparently seeking to soften up Iraqi defenses before launching the offensive.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Nicosia, said the targets in Al Amarah, on the main highway linking Basra with Baghdad, were heavily damaged.

The communique gave no other details and did not say how many planes were involved in the raid.

The Iranian air force, badly depleted by combat losses and a critical shortage of spare parts for the U.S.-made jets, is outnumbered 8-1 by Iraq and barely uses more than a handful of aircraft on raids.

Sometimes air strikes consist of

only one or two planes.

But despite these problems, the Iraqis have been claiming air attacks on Iraqi troop concentrations and other targets in the southern sector of the 1,180-kilometre front line around Basra for several days.

IRNA reported fighting in the northern front and artillery duels in the central and southern sectors.

Baghdad's Al Thawra daily, organ of Iraq's ruling Baath Socialist Party, warned the Iraqis that "they have chosen a suicidal path" by preparing to mount a fresh offensive.

The Iraqis have been bracing for a major assault for several weeks.

The Iraqi armed forces newspaper Al Qadessiya said Iraqi forces would continue to hit mainstays of the Iranian "aggression until it is destroyed once and for all."

The warning appeared in an editorial in the daily exactly one year after the Iraqi air force's first major long-range bombing mission on Iran's Larak Island

makeshift terminal. The island is near the Strait of Hormuz and about 1,250 kilometres away from the Iraqi mainland.

The editorial said the Iraqi armed forces were able to "break the backbone of the Iranian regime."

Al Thawra said Baghdad's "strategic supremacy and preemptive attacks" on Iranian installations would bring about a "total defeat on the Iranian side."

Both sides have reported heavy clashes in the northern front around the mountainous Hajj Omran-Sulaimaniyeh sector over the last week.

The Iraqis have been mobilising for weeks while Iraq's powerful air force hammered the country's oil centres and tankers in the Gulf seeking to cut Tehran's economic jugular.

IRNA reported that Revolutionary Guards Minister Mohsen Rafiq-Doust inspected the 150,000-strong "basji," or volunteers, as they carried out war manoeuvres in western Lorestan province Wednesday.

Goria coalition secures full parliament approval

ROME (AP) — The Chamber of Deputies gave a vote of confidence Wednesday to Premier Giovanni Goria's government to complete parliamentary approval of the revived five-party coalition.

The vote in the chamber, the lower house of parliament, was 368-233. One deputy abstained.

The coalition, composed of the Christian Democrats, Socialists, Republicans, Social Democrats and Liberals, won a vote of confidence in the Senate last Saturday.

Mr. Goria, a Christian Democrat who took office 3½ months ago, resigned Nov. 14 after the Liberal Party pulled out of the coalition in a dispute over the proposed 1988 budget.

However, Mr. Goria withdrew his resignation five days later when the Liberals agreed to re-join the coalition after winning some concessions. The agreement calls for cuts of \$1.2 billion in public spending and reduction in income taxes by an average of two per cent provided inflation remains at the targeted level of 4.5 per cent.

Blast hits U.S. insurance firm's office in Kuwait

KUWAIT (Agencies) — An explosion on Wednesday rocked a building in downtown Kuwait where the American Life Insurance Company has an office, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said.

It said the "small" explosion took place at 1600 local (1300 GMT) when the offices were empty of employees and caused no damage.

Witnesses quoted by AP said policemen cordoned off the area and civil defence personnel rushed to the site.

There did not appear to be much damage, said the witnesses. The blast in downtown Kuwait occurred only a few hours before the arrival of the Rev. Jesse Jackson, a U.S. Democratic party candidate for the U.S. presidential elections. He was to spend the night in Kuwait and fly on to other Gulf countries on Thursday (see page 2).

Kuwait, the country closest to the Iran-Iraq warfront, has been the target of several bombing attacks since 1983. Two explosions occurred this year outside buildings housing offices of Pan American World Airways and Trans World Airlines, both U.S.-owned.

These attacks are believed to have been carried out by pro-

Iranian saboteurs.

Several people, some of them Kuwaitis and others Iraqis or Lebanese, have been arrested in connection with bombings.

On Oct. 25 a small bomb exploded in front of a ticket office for Pan American, causing no casualties.

Local newspapers blamed the incident on pro-Iranian militants opposed to the large U.S. naval presence in the Gulf.

Seventeen people have been convicted of a December 1983 bombings spree that targeted the U.S. and French embassies as well as Kuwaiti institutions. Three of the convicts were sentenced to death but the verdict has not been implemented.

Kidnappers holding foreign hostages in Lebanon have demanded the release of these convicts in return for the captives, but Kuwait has refused.

Twenty-four foreigners, including eight Americans, remain missing in Lebanon. Most of them are believed held by pro-Iranian factions.

The Rev. Jackson told reporters at Heathrow airport in London on Wednesday that he planned a series of private meetings and appeals to help release the hostages. He did not elaborate.



His Majesty King Hussein with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad during a short working visit he paid to Damascus on Wednesday (Petra photo)

Shultz: It is time to call Iran's bluff at U.N.

GENEVA (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said Tuesday that Iran was playing a "game of bluff" against U.N. Security Council over the world body's efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war and that the U.S. was determined to "call that bluff."

Mr. Shultz also said Moscow was still unwilling to accept a United Nations Security Council resolution calling for a mandatory global arms embargo against Iran.

Addressing a news conference late Tuesday night after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Geneva, Mr. Shultz was asked whether the Soviet side had indicated it would back an arms embargo.

He said: "We did discuss that subject rather extensively. I will say from the standpoint of the United States that we think it is time to move onto the next resolution — calling for mandatory sanctions."

"It is clear that the Soviets are not ready to go with us on that at this point," Mr. Shultz said. "But that won't stop us from expressing our view and working for it in the United Nations."

U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar is trying to implement a Security Council resolution of July 20 which ordered an immediate ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

The resolution by the 15-member council also called for setting up an impartial panel to establish responsibility for the seven-year-old Gulf war.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar has been trying to arrange separate meetings with emissaries of Iran and Iraq.

He is to hold talks with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Jawad Larjani about the ceasefire next week, Iran's U.N. representative said in New York on Tuesday.

Mr. Shultz said: "So far as we can see, Iran is playing a game of bluff against the United Nations Security Council. They are saying they are coming to meetings and not showing up. And so I think it is time to call that bluff."

He said the United States favoured giving Mr. Perez de Cuellar "a little more clout."

At the U.N., Iranian Ambassador Said Rajaie Khorassani spoke to reporters after a hurriedly arranged meeting with Mr. Perez de Cuellar on Tuesday that Mr. Larjani would meet the U.N. chief next week.

Tehran named Mr. Larjani earlier this month as its special envoy but delayed setting a date for his arrival here.

Mr. Rajaie Khorassani said Mr. Larjani would visit the U.N. early next week but declined to name a specific date.

He also made clear Iran did not want the talks to overlap with meetings between Mr. Perez de Cuellar and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, previously named by Baghdad as its representative.

"We are not interested in simultaneity," Mr. Rajaie Khorassani said.

U.S. allies welcome INF pact, to suspend missile deployments

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — The NATO allies gave on Wednesday a warm welcome to a U.S.-Soviet pact to abolish medium-range nuclear missiles and announced they would stop deploying U.S. cruise missiles as soon as it is signed in Washington next month.

"When the treaty is finally signed on Dec. 8, at that point whatever exists at that stage stays in place but there is no further work and there are no further deployments," U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz told a news conference.

Mr. Shultz spoke after spelling out details of an intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) agreement with Moscow to a two-hour special session of foreign ministers and ambassadors from the 16-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Mr. Shultz said the allies had expressed delight at the outcome which he said had followed NATO's determination to stick to its 1979 decision to station U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Western Europe in response to Soviet deployment of SS-20s.

"This isn't a U.S. treaty. This is their treaty. This is an alliance treaty..." he said.

Arab mayors protest Israeli discrimination

TEL AVIV (R) — Officials representing Israel's 700,000 Arabs handed the keys of their town halls and offices to the interior ministry on Wednesday in protest at a cash shortage in Arab towns which they said resulted from government discrimination.

"Our towns have grossly inadequate drainage; no community services and our teachers have not been paid for three months," said Gabareen Younis, deputy mayor of Umm Al Fahum, one of the largest Arab towns with a population of 18,000.

"There's no more money to pay for electricity and water, which are about to be cut off," he said. "It's intolerable. Israeli Arabs pay the same taxes as Jews but although we are 17 per cent of the population we get only 2.3 per cent of the cash."

Local authorities in Arab areas of central and northern Israel began a week-long strike on Sunday to press for equal treatment with Jewish towns. Arab schools shed.

Sources quoted by Reuters said a Palestinian commander, who was reported to have been killed by sniper fire from Amal forces on Tuesday, was in fact seriously wounded, along with a political official.

Police did not name the two killed, but said they were Palestinian commanders in Shatila. The wounded included three Palestinian civilians and two others from the camp's surroundings.

Two soldiers — a Lebanese and a Syrian — were wounded by sniper fire Wednesday morning, a police statement said.

They are members of a peacekeeping force deployed at Shatila since last April to try to end nearly three years of blood-

shed.

to prevent cheating, in two days of talks in Geneva on Monday and Tuesday.

The treaty, the first in which the superpowers will reduce their nuclear missile arsenals, will be the centrepiece of a Washington summit meeting between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on Dec. 7-10.

NATO Secretary-General Lord Carrington said news of the INF agreement had been enthusiastically welcomed by the allies.

"It is good and right for our security and it also contributes to our search for more stable East-West relations and the preservation of peace," he said.

In Moscow, Viktor P. Karpov, the Kremlin's top arms control official, declared Wednesday that both sides have won with the completion of the draft treaty.

Mr. Karpov and other senior Soviet officials focused on the success of superpower relations a day after it was announced in Geneva that the final obstacles to the arms control accord had been cleared up.

"Both sides have won and the security of both sides will be

secured," he said.

Anybody who says that Europe doesn't like this treaty doesn't have a clue about European attitudes," he said.

NATO says the Soviet Union appears to have reached a target level of 441 for its triple-headed SS-20 missiles, the bulk of the Soviet nuclear systems which will be eliminated under an INF treaty.

Mr. Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze tied up work on the treaty, a document of more than 100 pages detailing complicated procedures

(Continued on page 3)

Tunis holds 73 suspected of planning terror attacks

TUNIS (AP) — Authorities have arrested 73 people accused of planning terrorist attacks, including members of the National Guard, police and military, Interior Minister Habib Ammar announced Wednesday.

The arrests first were made public Monday, but authorities waited until Wednesday to give details.

Speaking at a news conference, Mr. Ammar said those arrested had planned attacks against Tunisian leaders, the Interior Ministry, police barracks, military courts and a National Guard compound.

He said all arrests took place on or since Nov. 19.

Mr. Ammar provided details neither on the planned attacks nor the identities of the accused, who include a National Guard sergeant, an army sergeant and captain, two police inspectors and a customs agent.

He said guns, grenades and walkie-talkies were confiscated during the arrests. An investigation was continuing, he added.

Mr. Ammar refused to name any Tunisian political party or organisation that might be implicated in the alleged plot.

However, other Tunisian authorities, speaking on condition of anonymity, said some members of the fundamentalist Islamic Tendency Movement (MIT) were involved in the suspected plot.

In September, a Tunisian security court tried 90 members of the opposition fundamentalist group and acquitted 13 of them. The rest, some tried in absentia, were given sentences ranging from short prison terms to death.

The newly formed National Security Council on Monday issued a statement saying that some arrests had been made.

U.S. Navy reportedly has Gulf mines 'under control'

ABOARD USS INFLECT IN THE GULF (R) — After finding 11 mines during five days of operations in a major shipping channel of the northern Gulf, American mine-hunting forces have the situation "absolutely under control," according to a press pool report from the USS Inflect.

Commander Francis D. Demasi, 37, commanding officer of the Inflect, said the last few days represented a strong comeback for the U.S. Navy's minesweeping forces.

The U.S. Navy had fallen behind in minesweeping technology while European and other navies forged ahead with new sophisticated gear for mine-hunting and sweeping.

Asked whether he believed Iran laid the mines, Commander Demasi said he had no personal feelings about who was responsible.

"It's just that we know there are mines here. They pose a threat to everybody, to the international shipping community, and we are going to get rid of them."

He also said he believed that although mine-hunting operations would continue, "absolutely we've got it under control. The U.S. minesweeping forces have it under control. No question about that."

The U.S. Navy has begun escorting another tanker convoy southward through the waterway, the U.S. Defence Department said on Tuesday.

The Pentagon said the navy late on Monday night began escorting a convoy of three U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tankers southward from Kuwait.

The 46,700-tonne liquefied gas carriers Gas Queen and Gas Prince and the 290,000-tonne product carrier Townsend "are proceeding uneventfully in the central Gulf," it said.

The brief announcement said only that the ships were being escorted by the cruiser Elrod.

It was the 19th such convoy through the troubled waterway since the United States began protecting U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tankers in July.

Officers and men aboard U.S. warships say they often see flashes of fire in the northern

Gulf as Iraqi fighter-bombers hurl missiles at oil tankers along the coast of Iran.

Sometimes an orange glow on the dark horizon tells them a radar-guided projectile found its target in Iraq's campaign to destroy the oil shipping industry that supports Tehran's war effort.

"It starts out like a shooting star. There's a flash. Then a dim orange streak. And sometimes you see what looks like an explosion," said Lieutenant J.G. Jeremy Konkko, assistant navigator aboard the missile cruiser Richmond K. Turner.

The Turner is one of the U.S. warships on patrol and convoy duty, protecting Kuwaiti tankers flying the U.S. flag.

The 8,500-tonne Turner, one of the navy's "double-enders" — meaning armed with long range missile batteries at both bow and stern — is a recent addition to the Middle East Force, the navy's escort squadron in the Gulf.

It hasn't taken long for the Turner's commanding officer, Capt. John D. Luke, and his crew of about 400 to learn how to sail and survive in the waterway where, says Capt. Luke, the rules of the open ocean don't always apply.

On Monday night the Turner patrolled not far from Iran-held Farsi Island in the northern Gulf.

The Turner twice went to its top state of alert against aerial attack. Both times the alert was triggered by Iraqi warplanes flying south over the Gulf, looping to the east and heading back north as if to carry out attacks on the Iranian shipping lanes south of the big coastal oil terminal at Kharg Island.

U.S. officers say the pattern is a familiar one, especially since Baghdad stepped up its aerial campaign. Iraq has claimed nearly two dozen attacks on Iranian tankers since Nov. 9 in one of its most sustained campaigns of the 3½-year-old "tanker war."

Tactical operations officers aboard Turner say the Iraqi flights often put the U.S. ships on top alert two or three times a day.

The navy has not forgotten the May 17 incident when an Iraqi jet fired two missiles into mid-Gulf, killing 37 crewmen. Both governments said the attack was a mistake.

Wary Americans now use their computerized tracking systems and illuminated maps to follow everything that moves, especially in the skies.

On Monday, the Turner's combat information centre was keeping careful tabs on two Iranian F-4 Phantoms that had flown out from the coastal base at Bushehr and circled over the Gulf west of where the Americans were patrolling.

As the Iraqi planes caused the cruiser to go into "condition three red," four sleek white missiles rose swiftly out of the bow and stern missile houses on rails and into launch position.

The cases of foreigners abducted in Lebanon.

"We will be reaching out privately and publicly, making appeals, trying to penetrate and get someone's attention to help gain their release," Rev. Jackson said during a brief stopover on his way to Kuwait.

At least 26 foreigners are missing, believed kidnapped, in Muslim areas of Lebanon.

Mr. Ceausescu and Mr. Mubarak signed Wednesday a protocol for long-term bilateral cooperation.

The communiqué reiterated the two countries' support of an international conference under U.N. auspices to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict peacefully. It said the participants should include the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The communiqué welcomed the U.S.-Soviet agreement on scrapping intermediate and short-range missiles and "expressed hope that this will open the way to new agreements on elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons."

The two leaders proposed two international conferences to solve foreign debt problems plaguing Third World countries. A meeting of debtor countries, to be followed by a conference including creditor nations.

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Mubarak, Ceausescu voice 'deep concern' over Gulf

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and visiting Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu voiced "deep concern" over recent escalation of the Gulf war.

In a joint communiqué on their talks, the two leaders called for "special measures to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 and negotiations to solve the problems between Iran and Iraq and safeguard shipping in the region."

The communiqué did not say what measures the two leaders had in mind.

Resolution 598, adopted last July, called for a cease-fire to be followed by reciprocal troop withdrawals to international borders and negotiations for a settlement. Iraq has accepted the measure, but Iran has set conditions for its approval.

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Japan urges Iran to accept U.N. resolution

TOKYO (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno urged Iran on Wednesday to accept a United Nations resolution and end hostilities with Iraq, a ministry spokesman said.

Mr. Uno and Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati met for two hours to discuss relations between their countries and the 7-year-old Gulf war, said the official, who cannot be named according to standing rules.

Mr. Velayati arrived in Tokyo on Tuesday for a three-day visit to Japan, which has good relations with both Iran and Iraq.

Mr. Velayati expressed apprehension that Japan has come under pressure from other countries to reduce its oil imports from Iran as part of economic sanctions against his country.

Mr. Uno replied that escalation in fighting would affect trade, and he urged Iran to accept a U.N. resolution calling for an immediate halt to hostilities in the region, the ministry official said.

Mr. Velayati said he welcomed peacekeeping efforts by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, but refused to commit his government to the U.N. plan, the official added.

Iran has said it is "dissatisfied" with certain aspects of the resolution. Mr. Velayati was quoted as saying, however, that he hopes to continue dialogue with Mr. Perez de Cuellar on the matter.

Mr. Uno told him that if Mr. Perez de Cuellar's efforts to mediate in the war failed, the United Nations would move on to a tougher "second-phase" stance and that Japan would have no choice but to follow, the official said.

The two ministers did not discuss a Japanese plan to finance a navigation system, intended as Japan's contribution to efforts by the United States and other nations to protect shipping in the Gulf from the hazards of the war.

The plan has reportedly triggered tension between Tokyo and Tehran, which strongly opposes the U.S. military presence in the Gulf.

However, Mr. Uno did say Iran should guarantee safe passage for ships in the Gulf and abandon new offensives against Iraq by accepting the U.N. resolution as a first step, the official reported.

This is Mr. Velayati's third visit to Japan as foreign affairs chief since 1984. He invited Mr. Uno to visit Iran, and Mr. Uno said he hoped to visit next year.

Mr. Velayati said on Wednesday that his country would not back down from its demand that "Iraq be named the aggressor" in their seven-year war.

"We will strive for a ceasefire if a United Nations committee moves towards recognition of the aggressor," Mr. Velayati told parliamentary members of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

"Iran's position basically remains unchanged," a Japanese official said, commenting on Mr. Velayati's talks Wednesday with Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and Mr. Uno.

"The United Nations cannot dictate what Iran can do," Mr. Velayati was quoted as telling Mr. Uno.

Frenchman dies 2 weeks after attack in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — A French engineer died in Beirut two weeks after he was shot and critically wounded by professional gunmen, hospital sources said.

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Food aid reaches Ethiopian villagers

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U.K. claims Libya sent arms to IRA

LONDON (R) — Britain accused Libya on Tuesday of supplying four shiploads of arms and explosives to the outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA) in 1985 and 1986 to help in a fight to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

A Foreign Office spokesman, speaking as British and Irish police combed the Irish border for IRA arms, said two shipments were landed on the eastern coast of the Republic of Ireland in 1985 and two arrived last year.

Britain has already accused Tripoli of being behind a huge shipment of arms destined for the IRA and seized last month by French police from the coasters Eksund off Brittany.

Irish officials said French police questioning the five-man Irish crew of the Eksund had learned the ships were loaded in the Mediterranean.

The Foreign Office would not give details of the other four shipments but Irish Justice Minister Gerry Collins said on Monday they were believed to contain more than the Eksund cargo.

U.S. firm pleads guilty in military sales to Israel

ALBANY, New York (AP) — A Connecticut company pleaded guilty on Tuesday to felony charges involving the illegal export of military-related products to Israel, U.S. attorney Frederick Scullen said.

The company, Napco Inc. of Terryville, Connecticut, paid \$750,000 in penalties, Mr. Scullen said.

The two counts charged that in October, 1985, the company exported cannon chrome-plating equipment to Israel without a licence from the Department of Commerce.

William Flannery, the counsel for Napco's parent company, Thermo Electron Corp. of Wal-

tham, Massachusetts, appeared before senior U.S. district Judge James T. Foley and entered the guilty plea on behalf of Napco, said David Homer, the assistant U.S. attorney who prosecuted the case.

According to court papers, Napco was working under contract at the U.S. Army's Watervliet arsenal near Albany in 1984 on a facility used to chrome plate the interior of medium-sized cannon barrels.

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Iraqi governor here to review border issues

RWEISHED (Petra) — An Iraqi delegation led by Adnan Ghidan, governor of Anbar, on Wednesday arrived in Amman via Rweished for a four-day visit to discuss border issues with Jordanian officials.

In a statement upon arrival at this border post, Mr. Ghidan said that the talks will cover issues related to the common border between Iraq and Jordan and will aim to serve the interests of the

peoples of the two countries.

The Iraqi official paid tribute to Jordan for its continued support for Iraq in its war efforts.

Mr. Ghidan, who is accompanied by senior aides, was met upon arrival here by Mafrag Governor Fayez Abbadi and local officials.

The delegation toured the Rweished region and the town of Azraq.

NHF opens courses on theatre-in-education

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Noot Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) today will open training courses here on using theatre and drama as modern educational tools.

The course, involving community college students, is part of a special programme designed by the NHF, at the beginning of 1987, for meeting the educational needs of Jordanian society.

The course will run for seven days.

On Monday, the NHF will open another seven-day training

course in Salt, and there will be another course for Zarqa community college students in the future, according to an NHF press release.

The National Conference on Education held in September recommended that new teaching techniques be introduced in schools and community colleges.

The NHF is cooperating with the Ministry of Education in introducing theatre-in-education to community colleges in the Kingdom.

French company to build two gas-filling stations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) has concluded an agreement with a French company to set up two stations, in Amman and Irbid, for filling gas cylinders with liquefied petroleum gas.

The JPRC has also concluded an agreement with a Turkish company to install a circular reservoir for liquefied gas.

According to a JPRC statement, the Amman station will be composed of three units for filling

cylinders, each with a 12.5-kilogramme capacity.

The Irbid station will have one unit and warehouses for storing gas cylinders.

The statement said that the two stations will have fire alarm systems, areas for cars to load and unload, workshops for testing cylinders, as well as offices.

The whole project, estimated to cost JD 4 million, will take 14 months to complete.

RJGC seminar ends with call for resource regulation

AMMAN (J.T.) — A four-day symposium on remote sensing and its use in monitoring desertification in the Bilad Ul Shaam (Greater Syria) region ended here Wednesday with a call on the countries of the region to introduce regulations and enact legislation governing the use of land, water and other natural resources for fighting the encroachment of desert on arable land.

The symposium, which was organised by the Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre (RJGC) in cooperation with the Arab League Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ALESCO) called on the countries of the Greater Syria to set up a green belt for the region, similar to one set up in North Africa's Arab countries, to protect agricultural land from deserts. In addition, the participants urged

governments to support the work of Arab agricultural experts in creating technology for developing semi-desert regions.

In a final communique, the participants called for greater cooperation among the countries of the region in monitoring and fighting desertification, through the following methods: training personnel, holding joint conferences and meetings on remote sensing techniques and modern technology and establishing a pan-Arab data bank of maps and other information concerning desertification.

In opening the symposium on Sunday, Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi said that desertification was chosen as the topic for this symposium because most Arab countries are affected by this problem, which often has profound effects on their socioeconomic development.

UNESCO workshop urges more attention to handicapped

AMMAN (Petra) — Participants in a regional workshop on training teachers in methods of integrating handicapped students into regular schools have recommended that Arab ministries of education undertake the supervision of special education programmes in their countries.

The five-day workshop, which ended here on Wednesday, was organised by the Amman-based regional office for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in cooperation with the Ministry of Education.

The workshop also called for setting up information centres in the Arab World to support the efforts of those working in the fields of special education and rehabilitation of the handicapped.

The participants called on Arab universities and scientific research institutions to pay special attention to the topic of integrating handicapped students into regular schools.

They also urged UNESCO to assist Arab states through training teachers and by extending financial and technical aid to project in this field.

The workshop also asked the Arab League Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ALESCO) to gather information about the situation of handicapped students in the Arab World and to monitor problems related to this.

Taking part in the workshop were delegates from Jordan, Tunisia, Kuwait, Sudan, Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Algeria and Bahrain.

Jordan presents sculpture as gift to Arab centre in Paris

AMMAN (J.T.) — A sculpture by Jordanian artist Mona Saudi has been erected at the Arab World Institute (Institut du Monde Arabe) in Paris as a gift to the centre from Jordan.

A celebration of the occasion held at the institute was attended by Jordan's ambassador to France, Mr. Yusef Boran, and the institute's president, Mr. Paul Carton, as well as Ms. Saudi and other Arab and French artists.

The white marble sculpture, 3.5 metres in height, was erected in the main court opposite the Arab World Institute.

Ms. Saudi said that the work, was inspired by Nabatean carv-

ings and then treated with modern geometrical lines.

The official opening of the Arab World Institute, to be held on Nov. 30, will be attended by French President Francois Mitterrand and French, Arab, and foreign officials.

Jordan's gift to France was conceived and constructed after the establishment of a special board of trustees for the project, under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The sculpture was financed by private contributions from Jordanian individuals and institutions.

The project took one year of work to complete.

Masri: Jordan's stand on all Arab issues stems from its firm belief in Arab nationalism

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — What has Jordan's nationalist role been in securing Arab reconciliation and accord during the last two decades? Jordan has, during this time, consistently exerted efforts to unify the Arab World, according to Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

"Since 1967, Jordan has always tried to solve Arab problems and to halt the dangers and threats against the Arab Nation, as a whole, and against the Arab Order," Mr. Masri said.

"I was an ambassador for a long time," he continued, "and I remember that most of the Jordanian ambassadors' missions to different countries were for an Arab purpose rather than a personal one."

Addressing a group attending a dinner held by the Professional and Working Women's Club on Tuesday evening, Mr. Masri outlined Jordan's nationalistic efforts to bring the Arab Nation closer together.

The foreign minister stressed that "His Majesty King Hussein's continuous efforts to unify the Arab fold culminated during the extraordinary Arab summit recently held here in Amman. It (the summit) achieved Arab reconciliation and unanimous agreements on the different Arab issues."

On Jordan's position vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict, Mr. Masri said, "while Jordan always looked at Resolution 242 as the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied territories and the re-gaining of Arab control, others saw it as recognition of Israel."

He continued to say that since the 1974 Arab summit in Rabat, Jordan has considered the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole representative of the Palestinian people. "And

we still insist on this point of view, noting that the PLO must participate in the proposed international peace conference," he added.

Mr. Masri noted that Jordan held to its nationalist position at the Baghdad summit in 1978, when it joined the Arabs in breaking relations with Egypt, following Egypt's Camp David accords with Israel. "Jordan was accused of wanting to join Egypt in its bilateral peace with Israel, which was obviously untrue. King Hussein had told the press on many occasions that if Jordan wanted to get into Camp David in the way it was offered, Jordan would have benefited a great deal. But because of Jordan's nationalist principles, it still rejects this path," the minister explained.

He said that since the beginning of the Iran-Iraq war, Jordan's stand has remained nationalist, firmly behind Iraq against the threat of the Iranian regime, which is a dangerous threat to the entire Arab Order.

Mr. Masri added that for two years, King Hussein had warned the Gulf countries that if no united Arab position was taken towards confronting this danger, then Iran would increase the scale of the war, and the Gulf states would be forced to ask for foreign protection. "and if the foreign fleets remain in the Gulf waters, then there is even more danger to the Arab Order," he said, noting that if the other Arab countries had taken the same position as Jordan, the Gulf war would not have reached this stage.

The foreign minister went on to say that after seven months of the King's intensive efforts, President Saddam Hussein of Iraq and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad met in Jaffa for twenty hours; but the two leaders still did not agree. Then, during the recent

summit in Amman, Mr. Masri added, King Hussein again exerted efforts towards reconciling the two leaders and managed to have them meet together, in the presence of five other Arab leaders — an event which led to their actual reconciliation.

Mr. Masri explained that these exhaustive efforts by King Hussein were evidence of his own and his country's devotion to their nationalist stand.

The foreign minister also mentioned that another example of Jordan's nationalist position in the Arab World was the fact that Jordan resumed diplomatic ties with Libya before the convening of the extraordinary Arab summit here, "despite Libya's accusations against Jordan in its press and other problems."

On the Arab League, Mr. Masri said that the league has weakened, become less active and less important because of Arab fragmentation. He added that the Arab League must be strengthened in order to pave the way for solving Arab problems. Mr. Masri noted that King Hussein had stressed this point strongly during the recent summit.

The minister also said that Euro-Arab dialogue is beneficial to the Arab interests, as well as Afro-Arab dialogue. "We don't have a single embassy in Africa, and we must work together to strengthen our position within the African continent," he said, adding that on this point, too, King Hussein held an Arab nationalist stand.

Answering a question on Egypt after he finished the lecture, Mr. Masri said Jordan restored ties with Egypt in 1984 because "the Israeli regime's aim has always been to isolate Egypt from the rest of the Arab World. I'm not saying that breaking relations with Egypt in 1978 was wrong at that time, but now the circumstances are different. And now, only two weeks after the summit, nine of the Arab countries have restored their ties with Egypt."

On the proposed international peace conference, Mr. Masri said Israeli and U.S. opposition to the idea was a major obstacle in efforts to realise that goal. "For the past three years, Jordan has had the rest of the world supporting the principle of the conference, and still those two countries refuse it. And I don't think the U.S. will change its position; but it helps when they are pressured by the rest of the world," he explained. "The only way to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict is through diplomatic means and holding an international peace conference," Mr. Masri concluded.

Queen inaugurates Azraq women's development project

AZRAQ — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Wednesday visited the Al Azraq and Al Shomari regions northeast of Amman and formally inaugurated a project for the production of traditional bread by local women in their own homes.

The Queen, accompanied by Zarqa Governor Eid Qatameh, the under secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development and other officials, was briefed on the objectives of the bread production project. Bread-baking is a traditional activity of the Azraq population.

Since its inception in 1975, the project has recruited 71 families. The women of these families involved in the baking of bread have been able to generate funds to help provide for their families and maintain their households.

The income-generating project was introduced by the Azraq Society for Social Development, which also runs a children's library, a kindergarten, a recreation centre and sewing and knitting units to benefit the population of 6,000.

The "bakery" project, which has been established in cooperation with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in Jordan, offers local women the chance to bake bread

in their own homes and at their own convenience. CRS also assisted with the initial funding and purchase of materials, as well as the drafting of marketing plans for the sale and distribution of the bread throughout the country.

According to the plan, the bread is collected from homes every morning and brought to a quality control and packaging room in the Azraq Society building, where it is checked, packed and later delivered to homes in various towns.

The women involved in baking are paid for kilogramme of bread, and the proceeds from sales benefit the development and improvement of the Azraq Society's facilities.

Queen Noor also visited the headquarters of the local Azraq Women's Society and looked into its activities and programmes for providing training to local women on bringing up children.

A celebration to welcome the Queen was held at the Azraq

public square, where local notables made speeches paying tribute to His Majesty King Hussein and Queen Noor. The speeches referred to the Queen's special concern over the development of Jordanian women and helping them to serve their society.

Her Majesty later called at one of the local homes and watched the women bake their bread.

After the Azraq visit, the Queen moved on to the Shomari Wildlife Reserve, where she met with Anis Muasher, president of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN), which is in charge of the Shomari project.

There, Queen Noor was briefed on the society's programmes aimed at conserving natural wealth and supervising and controlling hunting in Jordan.

The Shomari Wildlife Reserve was one of the major projects established by the RSCN. Mr. Muasher said. He added that the project is designed to preserve wildlife, protecting different species of animals and birds.

The RSCN has plans for establishing another wildlife reserve at Wadi Al Mujib in the south, as a part of a comprehensive plan to establish a total of 10 wildlife reserves throughout the Kingdom," Mr. Muasher noted.

He said that the Shomari reserve, set up on 25,000 dunums, holds 11 types of mammals, 134 types of birds and 130 strains of wild plants. The RSCN aims at increasing the number of animals protected in the reserve, Mr. Muasher said.

Later, the Queen toured parts of the Shomari Wildlife Reserve, inspecting the plants and creatures. Her Majesty expressed concern over the over-pumping of water from the Shomari water basin which, she said, had resulted in the depletion of water resources, causing drought.

After the Shomari visit, the Queen concluded her tour by a visit to the Azraq wildlife reserve, set up in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture.



Her Majesty Queen Noor on Wednesday is briefed on a bread-baking project for women in Azraq sponsored by the Azraq Society for Social Development. Queen Noor earlier inaugurated the project, which generates income for women to help support their households (Petra photo)

Symposium aims to find solutions to problem of road accidents

AMMAN (J.T.) — Representatives of 12 Arab countries and several Arab and international organisations will take part in a three-day symposium on road accidents to open on Saturday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The symposium has been organised by the Jordan Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (JSPRA) in cooperation with the Public Security Department (PSD).

JSPRA President Zuhair Malhas said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that a total of 24 working papers will be reviewed by participants,

focusing on public awareness, education at schools, traffic regulations and first aid and rescue operations on the road.

"Educating school children about traffic rules will be one of the most important topics discussed at the symposium, as well as the subject of initiating campaigns for spreading awareness among the public on road accidents," Dr. Malhas noted.

He said that the participants will discuss engineering measures on the road, covering the general conditions of roads, road signs guiding motorists and pedestrians and the need for sidewalks to help reduce road accidents in the

country.

The participants will also turn their attention to the traffic rule and regulations by which motorists and pedestrians should abide the role of police organisations in implementing these regulations, and the courts which impose fine and penalties on traffic violators Dr. Malhas said.

He said that insurance companies, which will be represented at the meetings, have their own responsibility towards improving the road accident situation, especially in respecting regulations and laws generating accident procedures.



Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri attends a gathering held by the Professional and Working Women's Club. Mr. Masri addressed the Tuesday evening event, stressing Jordan's Arab nationalist stand on all Arab issues (Petra photo)

U.S. allies welcome INF pact

(Continued from page 1)
enhanced as a result of this agreement," said Mr. Karpov, who heads the Foreign Ministry's arms control department.

He outlined at a news briefing the schedule for destruction of the superpowers' medium- and shorter-range missiles, and the provisions for verifying each side's compliance with the agreement.

Mr. Karpov also set an optimistic tone when asked whether the Soviets expect problems in securing the U.S. Senate ratification necessary to put the treaty's provisions into effect.

"Of course it is hard for me to give a 100 per cent guarantee of action by the U.S. Senate, where 100 senators represent various points of view and shades of public opinion," Mr. Karpov said. "I can only say that public opinion in the United States, according to polls, speaks in favour of the treaty."

The U.S.-Soviet treaty will have these major provisions:

— All U.S. and Soviet missiles with a range of 507 kilometres to 5,030 kilometres will be scrapped over three years.

— U.S. monitors will be stationed at Soviet missile sites and also inspect missile storage facilities. The Soviets will have the right to inspect the bases in West Germany, Britain, Italy and Belgium where U.S. missiles are deployed.

— The inspection system will run for 13 years, including 10 years after the missiles are scrapped.

— A total of 683 Soviet missiles will be eliminated, along with 364 missiles.

In Washington, U.S. officials said Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev would also discuss a variety of subjects during their summit. "Regional issues are some of

most contentious issues" between the two superpowers, and "arms control is an issue precisely because we have disagreements in so many other areas," said Daniel Howard.

At Geneva, "I know they (Mr. Shultz and Mr. Shevardnadze) had a discussion on regional issues... everything from Afghanistan to the Middle East," Mr. Howard said.

King holds talks with Assad

(Continued from page 1)

Since the Arab summit in Amman, news media in Damascus and Baghdad have quenched their normal torrent of mutual criticism and a group of top Syrian businessmen flew to Iraq on Saturday for talks they said would include possible resumption of trade ties.

Diplomats in Damascus said the trade team went to Baghdad despite a formal ban on travel to Iraq.

Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Marwan Dudin told Reuters he saw progress towards

healing the Iraqi-Syrian rift.

"All the indications, seen and not seen, announced and not announced, point to a positive response," he said.

Mr. Masri told the Paris-based news magazine Al Moustakbal earlier this week that an early resumption of Baghdad-Damascus diplomatic relations was on the cards.

Asked about reports that ties may be resumed within two weeks, he said: "Yes. The convention is to restore diplomatic ties as a first step in normalising relations between two countries."

EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL & EXHIBITION

Under the patronage of HRH Crown Prince Hassan
26 November - 1 December 1987, at the Royal Cultural Centre.

26 Nov. (Matinee) Fitzcarraldo (Germany)
26 Nov. Homecoming Song (Greece)
27 Nov. La Celestina (Spain)
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Taking the bull by the horns

THE snail-paced negotiations between United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and Iranian officials are leading to a dead-end. This is our assessment, notwithstanding the last-minute decision by Iran to send its deputy foreign minister to New York to exchange views with Mr. Perez de Cuellar. It will be recalled that it was the U.N. secretary-general who had originally pleaded, a few weeks back, for patience and asked the international community to give his talks with Iran a last chance. The exasperated U.N. chief appears convinced now more than ever before that he has been led astray by the Iranian leaders, and, further, that he has nothing to show for the four months of negotiations with them. It has been over four months since the U.N. Security Council adopted its ceasefire resolution; and all that time spent to cultivate Iranian cooperation for the implementation of that resolution must now be viewed as lost time.

The Arab World warned right from the start that Iran is in no mood to negotiate and is simply playing for time. This assessment is borne out by Mr. Perez de Cuellar's own verdict that his talks with Iran have become bogged down. And it should not escape anyone's attention that Iran is now preparing, and in earnest, a large-scale offensive against Iraq. This aggressive design by Iran speaks for itself, explaining why the U.N. secretary-general is still empty-handed. All these experiences with Iran substantiate ever more the view that the U.N. Security Council's efforts were sidetracked when it stalled on adopting a follow-up resolution to 598 calling for the application of sanctions against recalcitrant Tehran. It seems the world is now back to square one — where it adopted the ceasefire resolution. But better late than never.

The Security Council should, once again, take the bull by the horns and adopt the measure which it should have adopted in the first place, that is, an enforcement resolution envisaging the application of foolproof sanctions against Iran.

After four months of continuous foot-dragging by Iran, the least that we expect from the Security Council is a rectification of past errors of judgement and immediate moves to make up for precious, lost time. Indeed, there is no better way to do this than by adopting the long-delayed enforcement resolution. Anything short of that would be playing into the hands of the Iranian mullahs.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Parliament hails summit

THE Jordanian family through the Lower House of Parliament renewed its pride in the success of the extraordinary Arab summit meeting which came about as a result of the efforts of King Hussein. Parliament members at a meeting Tuesday were unanimous in their consideration of the summit as heralding a new Arab dawn and a shield for the Arabs, protecting them and their order from challenges that threaten the Arab World. What the deputies said in parliament embodies their national conviction and that of their people, and prove beyond doubt that Jordan is undertaking a serious national responsibility that is contributing towards Arab consensus and Arab agreement. The deputies' praise of King Hussein and the Amman summit and its resolutions means that our people are determined to back the march of Arab solidarity, and to make such solidarity a strong wall supporting all good efforts that are being made to protect the gains of the summit and employing the summit resolutions for the noble cause of regaining usurped Arab rights and deterring aggressors who have to see peace prevailing in our region. This praise of the summit was part of the deputies' renewed allegiance to the King, pledging to continue work for the good of the Arab Nation in total unity and cohesion. King Hussein has been able to open new scopes in inter-Arab solidarity; and the other Arab leaders have shown awareness of the dangers that threaten their nation and so they helped in making solidarity a reality and opened the door for the Arab march. The new era places new responsibilities on the Arab citizens requiring them to help the Arab Order build a new strength for the Arab Nation.

Al Dustour: King continues efforts

KING Hussein's visits to Damascus and Baghdad this week constitute the first step on a long road towards bolstering Arab consensus arrived at during the extraordinary Arab summit meeting in Amman. Even when efforts were being made to convene the conference in Amman, King Hussein was busily making arrangements to bring about reconciliation between the two capitals. He was hoping that this reconciliation will pave the way for joint Arab action and a stronger Arab stand. The Syrian-Iraqi relations have acquired much of the time and the efforts of the King, because any agreement between the two sides will have a bearing on the aspired pan-Arab action, and is bound to strengthen the Arab stand. For this reason, we believe that the King's coming visits to the two capitals will gain added importance, specially as they come in the wake of the successful Amman summit. The King was able during that summit to lay the basis for a reconciliation between Baghdad and Damascus, and his coming visits are expected to yield further fruitful results.

Sawt Al Shaab: Superpowers' agreement

THE superpowers are scheduled to sign a treaty on the elimination of all intermediate-range nuclear missiles during a summit in the coming month. If they do it will be a real achievement by Moscow and Washington in the present century. The two powers had encountered and overcome numerous problems in their search for a way to rid the globe of nuclear danger ever since they held their first summit in Iceland. We in Jordan view this agreement as a historic chance for the two superpowers to try to find solutions for regional questions which are still outstanding especially the Middle East problem and the question of Israel's continued aggression and occupation of Arab territory. The two superpowers ought also to direct their attention to the Gulf conflict and try to find a permanent solution for war that has been raging over the past seven years. They ought to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 so as to bring about peace to the Gulf region.

INF agreement draws positive response from world community

Reuter

POLITICIANS and commentators around the world breathed a sigh of relief on Wednesday that the Soviet Union and the United States had hammered out a treaty to scrap their medium-range nuclear missiles.

But some of the reaction was muted with commentators stressing the treaty to be signed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev at their Washington summit next month covered only a tiny fraction of the superpowers' nuclear arsenals.

They also said the fate of the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) pact hinged on ratification by the U.S. Senate.

China, itself a nuclear power, said the Washington summit would be a serious test of the will of the superpowers to end the arms race.

"Will the U.S.-Soviet summit

usher in a good start for gradual arms reduction or be just another diplomatic performance in the process of a continued arms race?" the official New China News Agency asked in a commentary.

Many words of peace and disarmament uttered at their two previous meetings in Iceland last year and in Geneva in 1985 have yet to be put into deeds, it said. "There are no foreseeable prospects for an unmitigated outer space," it said, accusing the superpowers of vacillating between wanting to reduce and build up their arsenals.

The agency noted that the treaty agreed to in Geneva on Tuesday accounted for just three per cent of their total nuclear forces. Austrian officials made the same point and, while welcoming the INF treaty, said it should be followed by further efforts to reduce strategic and conventional forces.

Norwegian Prime Minister Gro

Harlem Brundtland, whose country was a founder member of NATO in 1949 but refuses to station nuclear weapons on its soil, hailed the agreement as an historic breakthrough.

"It underlines the common interests of East and West and raises hopes that continued cooperation for the sake of increased security will bring new results," she said.

Australia's only national daily, The Australian, said the United States might have given away too much at Geneva because of Washington's eagerness for a third Reagan-Gorbachev summit.

"The political pressure on the negotiating process became a danger to Western security," it said. "The West has placed too much store on summits and too much pressure on American presidents to hold them. The result is to give the Soviets an unnecessary and damaging advantage in vital negotiations."

In London, officials said Britain warmly welcomed the treaty and had been consulted closely both as an allied power and as one of the countries in which cruise missiles are based.

But the right-wing Daily Telegraph commented: "The governments of Western Europe are now resigned to the INF treaty, rather than enthusiastic about it... they perceive that their own difficulties are increased by the need to achieve either politically unpopular nuclear enforcements or financially costly conventional ones, to maintain the military balance in the wake of the INF withdrawals."

Poland's Communist Party newspaper Trybuna Ludu said: "Europe and the world have achieved a success. We are nearing the first agreement in European post-war history to reduce the number of mass destruction weapons... let us hope that the Soviet-U.S. treaty will be the

beginning of a large process limiting and eliminating weapons of mass destruction and later on also other types of weapons."

In West Germany, where government leaders quickly welcomed the Geneva breakthrough, the conservative Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung said the agreement had altered Western European security for the worse.

"(In Europe) NATO has had an important option removed from it," the daily said. "Pershing-2 and cruise missiles were the only weapons which could threaten Soviet territory directly from European soil. After their removal an important rung on the 'ladder of escalation' is missing."

"In this respect," the Frankfurter Allgemeine said, "the European security situation has worsened, even if this has only been said quietly in the past few weeks."

West Germany's largest-selling daily, the right-wing Bild

Zeitung, said: "If Reagan and Gorbachev sign this agreement in December, it will be the best possible Christmas present for the world."

"In Belgium, where the stationing of 16 cruise missiles caused a major political row in 1985, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said the treaty agreement was the result of cohesion and firmness showed by the NATO alliance."

Prime Minister Wilfried Martens said in September Belgium would scrap plans for the deployment of 32 cruise missiles, due in the middle of next year, as soon as the INF accord was signed and without waiting for its formal ratification.

Non-aligned Yugoslavia's Foreign Minister Raif Dizdarevic told parliament: "It constitutes the first concrete step towards disarmament and opens prospects for further nuclear and conventional arms cuts."

War now routine in El Salvador

By Bryna Brennan

The Associated Press

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador. — War has become routine in El Salvador, a tiny Central American nation that was to be the United States' showcase for democracy, and the creeping development of a Central American peace plan has had little effect here.

The clatter of helicopters ferrying wounded soldiers and hauling fresh troops into battle sometimes still drowns out the bustle of San Salvador, the capital. Automatic rifle fire and bomb explosions still sound at night.

After eight years of battles, more than 65,000 dead, and \$2.7 billion in U.S. economic and military aid, the war between the government and leftist rebels grinds on.

At the same time, bickering within political parties, deep schisms among rightists and centrists within the government and internal military and economic tensions also threaten stability. In the countryside, where most of the war has been fought, peasants work to eke out a subsistence living. They endure two armies passing through their villages, praying that the government soldiers and guerrillas won't clash on their doorsteps.

The Aug. 7 Central American peace plan was designed to end civil wars here, in Nicaragua and Guatemala.

The El Salvador government, attempting to arrange a ceasefire, met in early October with Marxist guerrilla leaders and their political allies. The talks — the third try since the war began in October 1979 — ended unsuccessfully.

Earlier this month, the government announced a 15-day unilateral ceasefire. The military, which over the years has strongly opposed temporary truces, broke the ceasefire after five days by bombing guerrillas reportedly holed up in the north near two key hydroelectric plants.

A broad general amnesty freed about 500 political prisoners of the government, but was criticised by both the left and the right. The government offered amnesty as well to guerrillas currently fighting the government, but not one guerrilla came forward by the time the amnesty ended Friday.

By all accounts, human rights abuses in El Salvador have diminished but not disappeared. "The death squads are alive," says the Rev. Ignacio Martin-Baro, deputy rector of the University of Central America. "And even if they're not as strong as they used to be, they are a threat."

In 1980 right-wing death squads killed up to 1,000 suspected leftists a month. The head of the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission, Herbert Ernesto Anaya, was shot dead last month when he left home to take his children to school. The Roman Catholic church said it was the work of the death squads.

The killing was seen by some as a warning to several members of the rebel political alliance, known as the Democratic Revolutionary Front, not to fulfill their plans to come back from exile.

The Anaya shooting sparked several days of angry street demonstrations, and guerrillas refused to participate in further peace talks in protest.

Public demonstrations have become an almost daily event in recent months because of dissatisfaction with the government's inability to straighten out the economy and end the war.

Combined unemployment and underemployment in this densely populated country of more than 5.2 million stands at about 50 per cent. Hundreds of thousands have been uprooted from their homes because of the war. Guerrillas regularly blow up electric towers and bridges and disrupt essential services costing the nation some \$2 billion.

It has become almost ritual this year for the demonstrators to parade past the fortress U.S. embassy, chant "Yankee go home," paint the high walls with anti-U.S. slogans, brandish torches and perhaps burn an effigy of Uncle Sam.

The U.S. Congress each year certifies human rights improvements and approves the aid outlay, which stands at close to \$2 million a day. American embassy officials point to the last elections and campaigning for next year's legislative balloting as proof of democratic progress.

Anti-American rhetoric garners support not only among the leftists and their backers, but among the military, which has been trained by the United States and granted material ranging from bullets and bombs to uniforms and planes.

"The American trainers aren't going to teach us anything. I think that we must solve our own problems," retired Col. Sigifredo Ochoa said a few months ago. The position by the charismatic conservative enjoys widespread support among the younger officers, most of whom have seen considerably more combat than the American advisers sent to train them.

Military analysts don't give the 4,000 or so guerrillas, grouped in the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, a chance for a battlefield victory. Many, however, feel the rebels' determination to fight a well-equipped armed force of 56,000 has made them the best guerrilla army in Latin America.

Suspected leftist rebels shot and killed a driver for the U.S. embassy one recent afternoon in downtown San Salvador. Police frequently are ambushed.

Reagan's supporters oppose summit, arms treaty

By Carol Giacomo

Reuter

WASHINGTON — President Reagan's most ardent supporters, hardline conservatives, appear bent on undermining his December summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and the arms control pact the leaders plan to sign.

In Congress, in newspaper columns, in interviews and on the campaign trail, conservatives are questioning the treaty and saying the 76-year-old Reagan — who has made a career out of bashing Communism — is in danger of being snookered by a smooth and dynamic new Soviet leader.

A proposal to have the 56-year-old Gorbachev address a joint meeting of Congress during the December 7-10 summit in Washington was quickly torpedoed last week when conservative Republican legislators expressed outrage.

And even before the treaty abolishing intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) is signed, all Republican candidates for president in 1988 except Vice-President George Bush have expressed grave concerns — if not outright opposition.

"I just think that the West is once again in danger of being had," said Paul Weyrich of Free Congress, a conservative interest group.

"If we wanted to have a summit, we should have had one after the 1984 election when Reagan was riding high," he told Reuters. "But now the president is weak. The Iran-contra affair has weakened him... He does not have control of the foreign policy machinery," he said.

Reagan came to office in 1981 as the darling of hardline conservatives, branding the Soviet Union as an "evil empire" and resisting arms control with an adversary he said the West could never trust.

But with the end of his presidency nearing in January 1989, Reagan has decided to sign an INF treaty with Moscow — to eliminate missiles with ranges of 300 to 3,000 miles (500 to 5,000 km) — and has called for another treaty cutting strategic arsenals.

Reagan and senior U.S. officials say the key to the INF treaty — as well as future pacts — is the

Soviet Union's new willingness to accept highly intrusive on-site inspection and other measures to guard against cheating.

But Republicans on the House of Representatives Intelligence Committee, in a minority report published last week, challenge this assertion.

"The United States will be unable to guarantee that all intermediate- and short-range missiles are destroyed under the proposed INF pact, the real issues being how many could be retained undetected and whether monitoring privileges will maximize opportunities to investigate any suspicious activities we may discover," the congressmen said.

Just the fact that Reagan has agreed to meet Gorbachev at this critical time — when the president has been beset with serious domestic, foreign and personal problems — makes some conservatives extremely nervous.

In particular, they fear Reagan will give ground on his "Star Wars" programme for a space shield against enemy missiles in an effort to reach arms accords

with Moscow that could seal his place in history.

Weyrich said that during a recent private White House meeting, Reagan waxed eloquent about how different Gorbachev was from his predecessors. "How he was the first Soviet leader not to call for defeat of the West, how economic difficulties are driving them (Soviets) into our arms."

"I'm sorry, but I was here during the Nixon-Kissinger era and heard the same stuff. None of it was true then and it's not true now," Weyrich said.

He was referring to the detente period of eased superpower relations while President Richard Nixon and his Secretary of State Henry Kissinger were in office in the 1970s.

Former Assistant Defence Secretary Richard Perle, a hardliner, bluntly criticised Reagan in a newspaper column.

He warned "detente is not that star" by which to navigate superpower relations and insisted "the Washington summit next month is not a crossroads."

He also ridiculed Reagan for talking tough about bargaining

but harbouring the "silly notion" that when Gorbachev sees America first hand "he will be awestruck by the virtues of capitalism and individual liberty."

"This romantic notion, Hollywood on the Potomac, is devoid of any sense of history or reality," Perle wrote.

More than 50 Republican legislators howled in protest when word got out that someone — the White House and Democratic leaders disagreed on who — planned to invite Gorbachev to address Congress.

"We should not honour and glorify the head of the Soviet Communist Party, and dictator of the Soviet Union, by inviting him to address the most singular democratic forum in our land," said congressman Jack Kemp, a conservative New York Republican running for president.

That White House quickly backed off and promoted a less formal encounter between Gorbachev and U.S. legislators to help the INF pact in the Senate, where a two-thirds vote is needed for approval.

Li Peng typifies new brand of Chinese leader

By Jim Abrams

The Associated Press

BEIJING — Li Peng, China's new acting premier, typifies the new brand of Chinese leader: Concerned more with the nation's economic future than its revolutionary past.

The adopted son of the late premier Chou En-Lai has been in the forefront of ambitious plans to modernize China's backward infrastructure with nuclear power and computer technology. He also has headed China's education programme, now trying to turn out large numbers of technicians and wipe out illiteracy still prevalent in the countryside.

Li, 59, an electrical engineer, frequently has been labelled a conservative by the foreign press because he studied for six years in the Soviet Union and is thought to place greater emphasis on the need for central planning.

Speaking to reporters following the national Communist Party congress earlier this month, Li said this labelling was a "misunderstanding." He noted that he

had helped draft party chief Zhao Ziyang's keynote address to the congress, which was a resounding endorsement of the nation's market-oriented reforms and open-door policies.

His rise to the top rests more on his reputation as a highly intelligent technocrat than on his political leanings.

On an extensive visit to the United States in 1985, he impressed his American hosts with his technical knowledge and businesslike attitude.

At Niagara Falls and on a tour down the Mississippi River, he reportedly was too busy taking notes on hydroelectric power and water control to take in the scenery.

He is said to have a good sense of humour. When he met the late director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, William Casey, he reportedly said, "Ah, so you must have a file on me in your office."

But he is also described as having little time for small talk, and has yet to hone the diplomatic skills needed in his new job.

He has been known to cut short photo opportunities so he can finish with pleasanties and get down to business.

Li, born in Chengdu, Central China, in 1928, does have excellent revolutionary credentials. His father was executed by Chinese nationalists when he was 3, and Li was adopted by Chou En-Lai. He is said to still have a close relationship with Chou's widow, Deng Yingchao, like her husband one of China's most beloved people.

In 1941, at the age of 13, he went to the Communist Party's revolutionary headquarters at Yanan. He joined the party when he was 17.

From 1948 to 1954, he studied at the hydropower department of the Moscow Electrodynamics Academy, where he became fluent in Russian.

He held a series of important engineering posts after returning from Moscow, and was chief engineer of the country's largest hydroelectric complex in Jilin province, northeast China.

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Hot Ice (from left): Nader Faza, Rania Kamhawi and Musa Faza

Hot Ice sizzles tonight

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Their paradoxical name suits their style just fine. Hot Ice's style ranges from rock and roll, soft rock and jazz to reggae, African and Brazilian music.

Though Hot Ice has never performed a live concert and are not commercially produced, they have written a large number of songs. Four of their tunes have been recorded and broadcast on radio Jordan. In fact, on Radio Jordan's annual top forty contest last year, their song "Leave" ended number 19 — the only song that made it to the top twenty. "Deeper Than the Ocean" was number 24, and "When Love Became Alive" came in at 26.

Hot Ice will perform their first concert on Thursday and Friday (Nov. 26 and 27) at the Philadelphia Cinema Theatre on 3rd Avenue, Amman's Third Circle.

Asked why they have not yet performed live, the manager of Hot Ice, Fawaz Abu Lema, said that the group needed time to develop their music and to prepare for a good concert. Their performance is expected to be different than the usual music concerts in Jordan, according to Fawaz.

He said that in addition to singing and playing music for two years, the band had been rehearsing intensely for the last two

months. "We don't want to give the audience just anything; we want to give them the best we can," Fawaz told the Jordan Times.

He said that a stage director was needed in order to ensure a professional performance. Though this is Sawwan Darwaza's first experience in directing a concert, she has several years of experience in theatre production. Sawwan is currently an art director with an advertisement company.

"She is a great artist, and she's adding important touches to the performance," said Fawaz, adding that her "wide imagination and creativity, which is rare in this field in Jordan, will give a different perspective to the usual concerts here."

Sawwan commented that this concert was different because there was the "human touch, simplicity and non-commerciality. The technical stage effects equipment is very limited, and there will be plenty of movement on stage, so that the audience does not lose its interest in the performance. In fact, Rania's dancing encouraged me to direct this concert," the director told the Jordan Times.

Rania Kamhawi, 22, is a professional ballet and jazz dancer who joined Hot Ice last year as both dancer and singer. Rania has been dancing since she was 11, and studied at the Royal Academy of Dancing in England.

She graduated at 19 as a ballet and jazz dance teacher, then taught her art in Portugal for two years. Now, she teaches dance at the Haya Arts Centre, the Royal Cultural Centre and the Ahliya School for Girls.

This will be Rania's first concert, and she is excited about the idea of introducing something new on stage "instead of just a straightforward singing concert."

Hot Ice's manager believes that what has made the band so different from others in Jordan is that they are "professional, have studied music, and have long experience in playing."

Musa Faza founded this group in 1985. He studied music composition at Cambridge University in England. Musa writes most of the lyrics and music, arranges the pieces, and plays keyboards, piano and percussion.

Nader Faza, Musa's cousin, is the band's drummer. He was also an original member of the band. He has been playing the drums for 12 years as a hobby with various amateur groups.

There are several guests who will perform with Hot Ice during this weekend's concert. Lead guitarist Naser Mazdawi has a golden record in Italy, and one of his tapes is still selling after 12 years in Egypt. Naser — a professional musician who resides in Egypt — also has several solo records in which he sings in both Arabic and Italian. His new tape will soon be released in Egypt.

Basim Said, a semi-professional musician, is the jazz guitarist. He worked with the Amman Jazz band, and was a member of the band "Wrong Approach" in Beirut, with whom the famous Lebanese composer and singer, Ziyad Rahbani, once played as a guest.

Another guest from Egypt is Fathi Salameh, who plays keyboards. According to Fawaz, Fathi plays jazz keyboard with the well-known Egyptian Mohammad Munir band. Fawaz said that Fathi was a musical arranger and that his name appeared on many cassettes released in Cairo.

Besides these guests who will appear with Hot Ice, Munib Nimri will play percussion for several of the total of 15 songs. Adding to the attraction are three dancers who will perform in the background with Rania, the show's choreographer. All three dancers are students she has trained.

There will also be a guest brass section including trumpet, saxophone and trombone. The costumes are designed by Majida Kaseer, and the lighting operator is Ousai Zureikat.

The concerts on Thursday and Friday are sponsored by the Philadelphia Lioness Club. All proceeds go to charity. Tickets for the performances which take place at 5 p.m. on both nights, are JD 3 each.

40 years of Yugoslav film

By Majda Seric

"I AM fascinated by the quality of many Yugoslav films, surprised by the subjects they deal with, their diversity, and the modesty with which they speak of real human problems," says New Orleans University professor Andrew Horton.

Horton, the author of a chapter on Yugoslav film in a recently published book titled "World Cinematography since 1945", attended this year's Yugoslav film festival in Pula on the northern Adriatic coast. His chapter comes in the wake of similar recapitulations of the achievements of the Yugoslav film.

Last year was the 90th anniversary of the first motion picture screening in Yugoslavia which took place in Belgrade in 1896. This year, the country marks the 65th anniversary of its first animated film which was made in Zagreb in 1922, and the 40th anniversary of the first film made after World War II.

Despite a handful of enthusiasts, Yugoslavia was a typical "film colony" up to World War II. In the 1940-1948 period, however, nine film companies were set up and the School of Cinematography was founded. The first feature films, "Slavica" and "This People Will Live" premiered in 1947. A total of 270 documentary and 13 feature films were made from 1945 to 1950.

Kosta Hlavaty, who reached the fascist concentration camp Jasenovac near Zagreb only one day after its liberation, made the first post-war Yugoslav documentary. Another documentary film maker, Franc Stiglic, won an award at the 1947 Venice Film Festival for his "Young People Build," the first foreign award to a Yugoslav film.

In the early 1950s, Yugoslavia started importing films from around the world. Some 70 to 100 movies were purchased each year and the number of theatres rose to around 1,000.

The first film to be exported was Branko Marjanovic's "The Flag." Forty feature and 700 short films were produced from 1952 to 1956, and the now traditional film festival in Pula was established in 1955.

Feature films made in the 1960-1964 period were characteristic for their diversity. Classic narrative realism reached its zenith, a commercial trend appeared, as well as works which slowly but steadily paved the way to modern film expression. Production records were also broken so that 186 short and 32 feature films

were made in 1961 alone, and the number of theatres rose to 1,638.

In 1962 Dusan Vukotic won an Oscar for his "Substitute", spreading the fame of the Zagreb school of animated film around the world.

Many consider the period between 1965 and 1969 as the golden age of Yugoslav film. Moving away from generally accepted views, film makers began exploring their own, individualised perceptions. Movies on the revolution made great strides in depicting the psychological, ethical and philosophical dimensions of man's struggle for freedom.

The Comintern resolution was first touched upon by the films "Noon," "Awakening of the Rats" and "Foxes", while Zelimir Zilnik's "Early Works" and Ljordan Zdravkovic's "Sunday" broached the subject of the 1968 youth unrest.

It was in this period that Yugoslavia exported the most films, the industry's export earnings in 1969 reached \$1,143,000 and maintained an annual average of \$1 million up to 1972.

But this trend did not continue. Production, as well as audiences, started falling as of 1970, partly because film makers were running out of imagination and partly because a number of "black wave" movies were found to be "politically unsuitable" and were shelved. This was also the time when high-budget spectacles like "The Battle of the Neretva", "Sutjeska" and the "Republic of Užice" were made.

Meanwhile, a new generation of film makers, educated and professionally trained, were ready to make their own contribution to the motion picture industry. Young directors — Zafarovic, Karanovic, Paskaljevic, Sijan, Sotra, Jelic, Radivojevic, Grlic, Markovic and Kusturica — began leaving their mark on the industry.

In 1981 Emir Kusturica's "Do You Remember Dolly Bell?" took the Golden Lion award in Venice for the best first film, and in 1985 his "When Father Was Away On Business" was a sensation in Cannes where it won the Golden Palm.

These directors' films deal with real people and often have historical backdrops. Though made on low budgets by small companies, they are authentic, creative and highly professional works. Many of them have been shown at international festivals, winning critical and public acclaim and numerous awards — Tanjug features.

Randa Habib's Corner

Lean and expensive

THE MINISTRY of Supply has assured us that the imported red meat in the market was in conformity with Jordanian and international standards and specifications.

According to the ministry, a new contract was signed with a meat importer here. The new contractor, unlike the old one who used to import Bulgarian and Romanian lamb meat, is importing meat from Turkey. According to butchers and consumers, Turkish meat is of a lower quality than European. But the Turkish meat, according to the ministry, is cheaper.

The ministry pays \$2,150 per tonne for Turkish meat, compared with \$2,400 per tonne it used to pay for Bulgarian or Romanian meat. In that case meat consumers have two reasons to be dissatisfied with the ministry's arrangement: First, they now get a lower quality of meat; second, despite the \$250 reduction in the price per tonne of meat, consumers are still paying the same price set by the ministry for so many years. This means that for every tonne of meat we consume, we are paying \$250 more than we should. And since the ministry was already making a profit from the earlier deal, it should have been content with that margin of profit and lowered the price for consumers accordingly.

However, and granted that any profits made by the ministry would be rechannelled to subsidise other food items, such as imported wheat, I still believe people should be told by the ministry. And don't think I am preaching a selfish cause. I am not: I am a vegetarian.

Serving a sultan

Minister in Oman

By Neil McLeod Innes,
Oleander Press, Cambridge.
1987 £15.75

WHEN, after 25 years in the Sudan Political Service, Neil McLeod Innes took employment with Sultan Said bin Taimur he served as foreign minister from 1953-58. He came to a divided country, Muscat, the littoral, was controlled by the sultan, while Oman, the interior, had autonomous status under a vaguely elected imam. This posed problems for the predominantly British oil company that had a concession for the whole. It wanted to drill in Oman; but a new imam there had fallen under the influence of Saudi Arabia and been persuaded to oppose the oil concession and seek recognition for Oman as an independent state.

Among Innes's many duties was that of organising a small task force under a British commander to protect the oil company. This force not only established the company safely on its site but helped to eject the Saudis from Buraimi (on the outskirts of Oman). It then advanced on the imam's fortress city and he scurried away on a donkey. The sultan was thus enabled to reunite Oman with Muscat under his direct rule.

These goals were attained with few shots fired. But two years later the sultan's troops were outmanoeuvred when the deposed imam's brother raised a revolt in Oman, bringing in fighters trained and armed in Saudi Arabia. It was then that the Sultan sought the aid of British regular forces to put down the insurrectionists and was rebuffed by the Arab League of a tyrant and British stooge.

Several British officers who took part in some of these operations have written of their experiences. This is the first book to weld the events together with a full account of the deliberations behind them. The sultan emerges as a very different character from the dim-witted despot his enemies claimed him to be. Autocratic he certainly was and his rory officer in his service exceeded his instructions. But he seems to have been an exceptionally thoughtful and benevolent ruler — as James Morris in his book of the period attested. Innes describes those times as they bore on both Omanis and British expatriates in a pleasantly anecdotal manner. It was many years after his departure that oil began to flow abundantly, more vigorous leadership was needed and Said bin Taimur had to abdicate in favour of his able son, Qabus — Middle East International, London.

Sue Durrant

Heart transplant surgeons win new respect after twenty years

By Arthur Spiegelman
Reuters

NEW YORK — First they were hailed as heroes, then denounced Dr. Frankenstein.

But now — 20 years after heart transplant surgeons expanded the frontiers of science — they are recognised as pioneers of what is becoming an almost routine operation.

Some of them, like South African's Christian Barnard who performed the first heart transplant December 3, 1967, have been hailed and hated in nearly the same breath.

Few surgeons of this century have been subjected to as much publicity, as much second-guessing or as much adoration as the heart transplanters who sometimes call themselves "chest-jackers" of the highest order.

Twenty years after Barnard removed the heart of a 24-year-old man 90 minutes after she died and put it into the chest of the year-old Louis Washkansky, 5,500 heart transplant operations have been performed, 330 in the United States, and 1st since 1985.

Although Washkansky lived only 18 days, long enough for him to compare himself to Dr. Frankenstein's monster, the operation enjoyed an immediate glow, offering hope to thousands of people who faced certain death.

By 1968, 100 such operations had been performed but survival rates were poor as the body rejected its new "pump" and the public began to distrust heart-transplantation and wonder about the men performing them.

"If you asked me 10 years ago about whether heart transplants were here to stay, I would have said I was unhappy about the enthusiasm shown by the medical world, but now I would say I am very happy indeed," Barnard told Reuters in a recent telephone interview.

What rescued heart transplants from becoming a discredited procedure was cyclosporine, an anti-rejection drug developed in the early 1980s.

With cyclosporine, heart transplant operations were again performed frequently, with 1985 and 1986 the banner years. Some 62 per cent of all heart transplant operations were performed in those years.

After the United States, Canada, France and Britain are the most active heart transplant centres.

The average age of transplant patients is 41 years old, but the operation has been performed on infants and on people as old as 66.

Because of limits to the number of donors, experts say they expect heart transplants to level off at 2,000 a year.

Barnard says what he remembers most about the first heart transplant operation is not the surgery itself but a phone call he made afterwards.

"I called the superintendent of Groote Schuur Hospital to tell him what I had done. He was annoyed that I had woken him up," recalled Barnard from Oklahoma City, where he now teaches six months a year at the Baptist Medical Centre.

"I explained to him that we had transplanted a human heart and he said he hoped the patient was doing well and rang off."

Barnard said he then walked out of the hospital and quietly got into his car.

"There were no reporters, no television cameras. I didn't think I had performed a great feat at all. I only thought I had introduced a new surgical technique."

"We had practised it on animals and I thought it was an extension of kidney transplants. We expected it to work and it did. Washkansky died of pneumonia."

The South African surgeon became famous overnight and controversial shortly after, making headlines for his jet-set private life.

"I was mentally abused for doing this (transplants). People asked why was it done in South Africa. I think the operation was more heavily criticised for being done in South Africa, than for anything else."

"We had nothing to hide. We obeyed the civil, criminal and ethical laws. I was criticised because of jealousy and lack of understanding. There was a political response. The first thing the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) asked me was did I do this to improve my country's bad image."

Three years after Barnard performed the first heart transplant, heart transplant survival rates worldwide were low and it was Norman Shumway at California's Stanford University Medical Centre who kept the procedure alive during its darkest days.

Shumway successfully transplanted hearts throughout the 1970s when most other surgeons who had rushed to do the operations in the late 1960s had given up the effort.

His success was due to his painstaking perfection of the technique, experimenting on hundreds of dogs.

He says it doesn't bother him that Barnard received much more publicity than he ever did.

"I know who I am," Shumway said, "and those who are conversant with the field know that. The greatest thing you can have in the kind of work you do is the respect of your peers."

Yet Shumway might feel some disappointment that Barnard was the first to transplant a heart in a human.

Just after Shumway performed his first human heart operation on January 6, 1968, a colleague asked him how he felt. Without any apparent resentment, Shumway replied: "Do you remember the second man to reach the North Pole?"

Twenty years later Shumway says that Barnard used his operating technique in the first transplant.

In the late 1960s, Barnard, on a trip to the United States to study kidney transplants, observed a former Stanford surgeon performing heart transplants on dogs at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond.

Says Shumway, "He (Barnard) went home and said, 'the heck with kidneys, a lot of people are

doing kidneys, let's do a heart transplant."

Shumway says he might not have welcomed the publicity from the first human transplant. "It might have been troublesome to have had all the additional notoriety... to have everybody clinging to your every pronouncement. Your personality can get significantly changed."

Since Shumway's first heart transplant operation, the Stanford Medical Centre has performed heart transplants on 472 patients.



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Change your smile with new technique

By Javid Hassan

RIYADH — Dr. Bernard Solinbad, assistant professor at the University of Paris, introduced in Riyadh last week a new technique in dental cosmetics for patients having mottled enamel or discoloured teeth, according to Dr. Stefani Mueller Bouzo, dental department head at the Saudi Medical Clinic, where he is working.

She said the technique, the first ever to be introduced in the kingdom, involves grinding slightly the labial face of the teeth and gluing onto them a ceramic

coating which has a minimum thickness of 0.3mm.

"It improves the colour and appearance of the teeth," Dr. Bouzo told Arab News, referring to the new concept in dental cosmetics. Mottled enamel is said to be especially rampant among Saudi patients, the cause of which is traced to the high fluoride content in the kingdom's water supply. At present, many patients in the clinic are said to be crown-

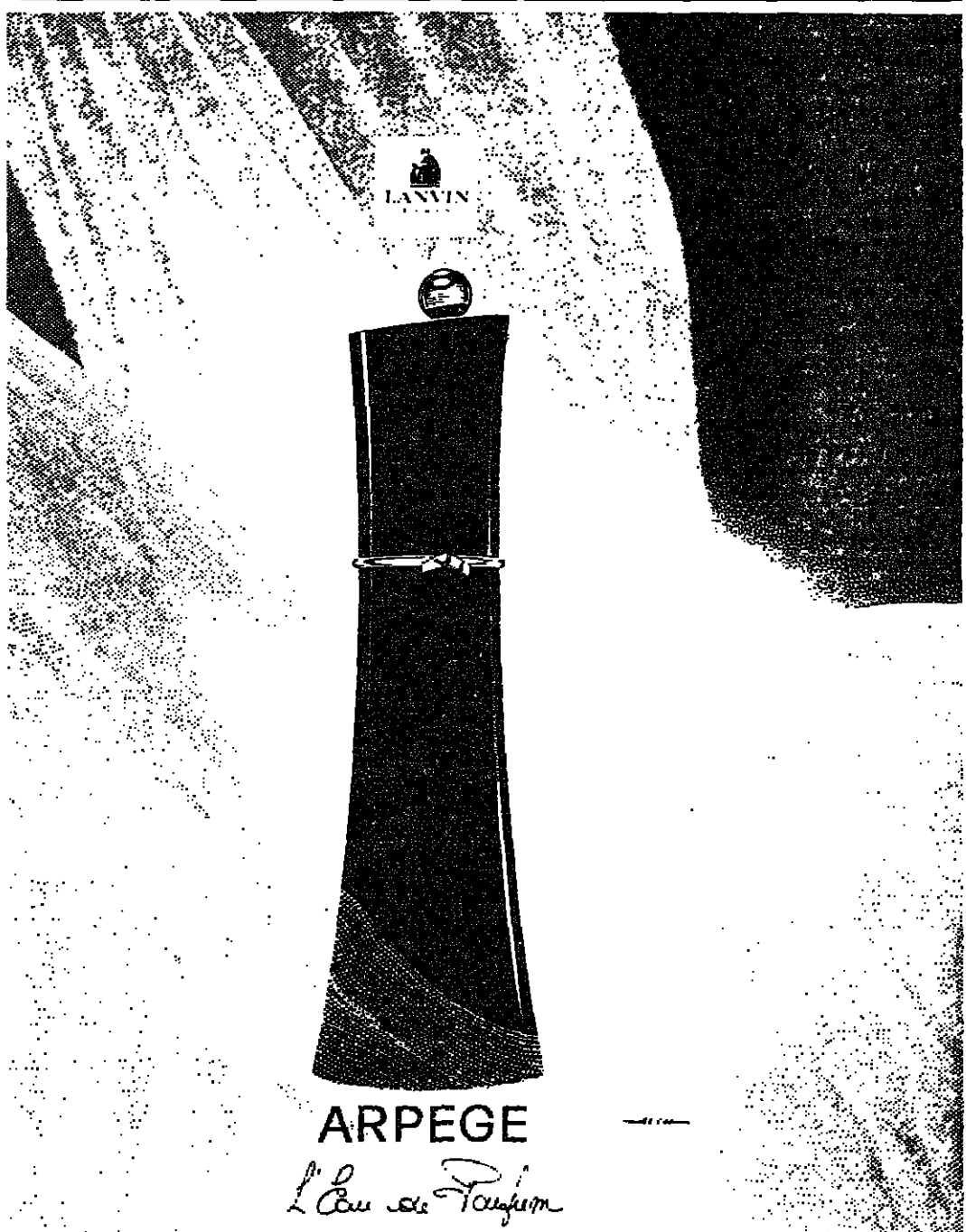
ing their teeth to mask the dull look.

Set up in 1981, the clinic, she said, deals with all fields of dentistry, such as implantology, dentures of all kinds, orthodontics and periodontics. In layman's language, implantology refers to the use of blade implants to replace a lost tooth. "For the past five years, we have been successfully setting blade implants for patients who have lost their lower

teeth," she points out. Orthodontics is a branch of dentistry whereby malpositioned teeth are usually corrected. Periodontics, another branch, deals with problems related to soft gums resulting from shrinking bones.

These problems, Dr. Bouzo said, arise mainly due to lack of oral hygiene on the part of the patients.

— Arab News.



Hassan pummels opponent but fails in bid for title

INGLEWOOD, California (AP) — Undefeated Tony Willis scored a 12th-round knockout over favourite Ramzi Hassan in their scheduled 12-round United States Boxing Association (USBA) light-heavyweight championship bout.

Willis, who weighed 174 pounds, was outmaneuvered and outpunched by Hassan early in the Tuesday night fight. In the eighth round, however, Willis floored Hassan, who weighed 175 pounds (80 kilograms), with a short right cross. The punch opened a cut over Hassan's left eye.

Hassan, originally from Jordan, recovered to win the next two rounds but was knocked down again in the 11th round with a short right cross.

Willis put Hassan on the floor once more with his right cross in the 12th and referee Larry Rozzella stopped the contest at 32 seconds of the round. Hassan's

trainer also had motioned to stop the fight.

Willis now holds the USBA and North American Boxing Federation light-heavyweight titles with a 14-0 record, 11 wins by knockout. Hassan falls to 28-3, with seven by knockout.

Hassan was ahead on all three judges' score cards going into the 12th round. Hassan began his career as a boxing pro in Jordan where he gained experience and regional reputation. He then immigrated to the United States to become one of the leading favorites on the ring.

Thanksgiving day tie features two losing teams

PONTIAC, Michigan (AP) — As the rest of America digs into Thanksgiving day dinners, the Kansas City Chiefs and Detroit Lions, the two worst teams in the National Football League (NFL), will be playing.

And they're in no mood for jokes about turkeys.

In addition to being the basis of the national holiday feast, a turkey is synonymous with a loser and the butt of many jokes. The football players don't want to feel like turkeys after Thursday's game.

"You play for pride," said Detroit nose tackle Eric Williams. "You play for a lot of money, but money doesn't mean beans. On national television, you don't want your family to see what a

bad team you are." Kansas City cornerback Albert Lewis said losing has caused the Chiefs some emotional problems.

"It's indescribable," Lewis said. "When you step on that football field, winning has to be uppermost in your mind. Right now, when you're 1-9, you have a tendency to think about losing."

Like the Chiefs, the Lions regular players have won just one game in 1987, a 27-17 victory over the Dallas Cowboys three weeks ago. Coupled with a 1-2 replacement record, the Lions are 2-8.

The Chiefs, who have struggled through a club-record nine straight losses, had the best pre-season record in the NFL at 4-1 and opened with a convincing victory over San Diego. But then

came a loss to Seattle, an 0-3 replacement record and five consecutive setbacks since the regular season.

Losing also hurts in other ways. Players on losers tend to go unnoticed. That hurts their pride, immediately, and could hurt them in the pocketbook later on.

The Chiefs record, for example, generally overshadows the performance of rookie running back Christian Okoye, a second-round draft pick from Azusa Pacific who leads the Chiefs in rushing with 469 yards and two touchdowns.

Lions wide receiver Pete Mandley, has 40 catches for 492 yards and four TDS and is averaging 13.9 yards on 10 punt returns, including one for 61 yards.

Still, the game offers tradition. The Lions have played 47 Thanksgiving day games since 1934 and many of them have been memorable. There was the 1962 grudge match, for example, in which Detroit's "fearsome four" — of Darris McCord, Alex Karras, Roger Brown and Sam Williams sacked Bart Starr 11 times for 110 yards in a 26-10 win over the Green Bay Packers.

The Lions, who have won seven of the last 10 holiday outings, are 23-22 in the Thanksgiving day series.



One of the two Royal Jordanian hopefuls in action (File photo)

Two Jordanian entries in Dubai Rally

The Royal Jordanian Silk Cut team will field two entries to the forthcoming Dubai International Rally, slated for Dec. 3-4. The Silk Cut Opel Manta's are currently being fully rebuilt at the exclusive Motor Sports Centre in Amman under the close scrutiny of Haitham Mufti owner of the sports centre, accomplished rally

driver and service chief of the Royal Jordanian Silk Cut team.

Car No. 1 will be driven by Amr Bilbeisi who announces that his co-driver will be Keith Ferry. Keith had a highly successful year in 1985 as co-driver for George Khayyat when they won that year's Jordan International Rally.

Amr and Keith are a very talented team having won the Jerash Rally in Jordan earlier this year. Unfortunately their Royal Highnesses Prince Abdullah and Prince Talal will not be entering the rally. The team's No. 2 car is driven by Nabil Karam and also boasts a new co-driver in the very experienced Ziad Hamzeh.

Jaite downs Arraya, Mattar stars in Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Argentina's Martin Jaite and Brazil's Luiz Mattar won their matches Tuesday in a first round of the \$516,000 South America Open Tennis tournament being held on Itapicica Island in north-eastern Brazil.

Jaite, ranked No. 15 worldwide, defeated Peru's Pablo Arraya 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 in the opening round of the last Nabisco Grand Prix tourney before the December Masters event in New York. Jaite had lost to Arraya last week in the Buenos Aires Nabisco Tournament.

"I wanted to do better in Buenos Aires because I intend to finish up the year ranked among the world's 12 best," Jaite said after the match held in 40-degree Celsius heat. "I'm playing well and if I reach the semifinal or final of this tournament I'll achieve that goal."

Brazil's top tennis player, Luiz Mattar, ranked 71, defeated fellow Brazilian Ivan Kley, 6-4, 6-7 (4-7), 6-3.

In the second upset victory of the event, West Germany's Tor

Meinecke defeated Argentina's Guillermo Perez-Roldan, ranked 19 worldwide, 6-2, 6-0.

Monday, Argentina's Guillermo Vilas lost to 19-year-old Javier Sanchez and later said he had been a victim of the intense heat on the resort island of the coast of Bahia State 1,700 kilometres northeast of Rio.

In other early matches, Brazil's Danilo Marcelino downed Argentina's Horacio de la Pena 6-4, 6-2 and Spain's Sergio Casal beat Czechoslovakia's Milan Srejber 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.

West Germany's Ricki Osterthum beat Spain's Juan Aguilera 6-2, 4-6, 7-6 (7-2) and Gilad Bloom defeated Yugoslavia's Bruno Oresar.

The top stars in the tournament, Andres Gomez of Ecuador and Brad Gilbert of the United States, were to take the court late Tuesday, respectively against Derek Rostango of the United States and Argentina's Roberto Saad.

The final berth in the Nabisco Masters Tournament, which brings together the top eight players in New York, the Itapicica tournament awards 400 points in the Grand Prix ranking.

Other top names in the tournament include Emilio Sanchez of Spain, No. 17, and Amos Mansdorf, No. 18. The tournament ends Saturday.

Liverpool storms back to the top

LONDON (Agencies) — Liverpool, inspired by England international John Barnes playing against his old club Watford, hit four goals in 17 minutes on Tuesday to surge back to the top of the English First Division.

The 4-0 scoreline lifted the former champions two points clear of Arsenal with a game in hand and left dispirited Watford firmly rooted in the bottom three.

After playing some of its poorest soccer of the season in the first half, Liverpool burst into action after halftime to shatter a Watford side that had previously looked capable of gaining at least a draw.

Barnes' 40-yard pass allowed Steve McMahon to open the scoring after 54 minutes and Ray Houghton added another 10 minutes later.

Then Barnes ran almost 50 yards to set up the third goal for John Aldridge and scored the fourth himself with a spectacular 30-yard drive.

The result swept Liverpool back to the top of the First Division standings on 37 points, two ahead of Arsenal and with a game in hand.

Watford, sold last week to millionaire publisher Robert Maxwell, managed to hold their own in the first half but after McMahon put Liverpool in front in the 54th minute the floodgates opened.

Clippers torpedo Warriors' advance

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Woodson came to the rescue so many times, it brought back memories of the Saturday afternoon movie serials.

"It was a marvellous performance because we looked like we were out of it several times," coach Gene Shue said after his Los Angeles Clippers edged the Golden State Warriors 123-120 in double-overtime Tuesday night.

And, in a performance worthy of Hollywood, it was Woodson in a starring role.

His off-balance jumper with one second remaining in regulation tied the score at 99 as the Clippers rallied from a 98-91 deficit with 54 seconds left.

His two free throws with four seconds remaining in the first overtime period knotted the score at 111.

And when he sank a long jumper with 21 seconds left in the second extra period, the Clippers had a 121-188 lead.

Elsewhere, it was Philadelphia 108, Cleveland 104; Detroit 97, Houston 83; Denver 132, New Jersey 104; Utah 100, Washington 83; Portland 98, Sacramento 94, and Seattle 103, the Los Angeles Lakers 85. Rod Higgins put on a show for Golden State, sinking 15 of 17 shots from the field, including 13 straight, and scoring with a career-high 33 points.

Coach scathed for pulling team off basketball court

BLOOMINGTON, Indiana (AP) — Indiana basketball coach Bob Knight, in trouble again, was reprimanded Tuesday by the university for pulling his team off the court during an exhibition game against the Soviet Union.

Knight refused to let his team finish the game on Saturday night after he was ejected for arguing with a referee.

A statement issued by the university's news bureau said Knight recognised he "had made a serious mistake of judgment," and that his actions had caused "great embarrassment not only to himself and the basketball programme, but also, and most importantly, to the entire university and its supporters."

Indiana Sports Information Director Kit Klingelhoff said

Knight has not specifically commented on the reprimand, but he has apologised several times.

Knight told Bloomington Rotarians on Tuesday that he "let some personal feelings outweigh good judgment as far as the general scope of things in that particular game were concerned."

Knight received three technical fouls Saturday night and pulled his team off the court about five minutes into the second half. The Soviets, leading 66-43, were declared winners by forfeit.

Knight was protesting what he said was a lane violation during free throws taken by a Soviet player. He was ejected from the game after getting his third technical foul. He refused to leave and told the officials if he had to go, his team would also go.

'Wimbledon has 15 per cent rise in profits'

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — This year's Wimbledon tennis championships, the only Grand Slam event played on grass, made a profit of more than £7 million (\$12.5 million), officials said Tuesday. The All England Club announced the profit as £7,154,990 (\$12,592,782), which will go to the British Lawn Tennis Association (BLTA) for the benefit of the game in Britain. The figure is some 15 per cent up on last year's profit of £6,200,848 (\$10,913,492).

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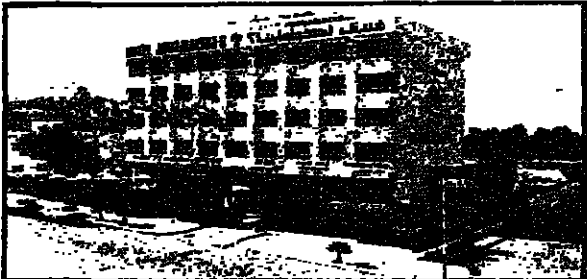
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FERTILIZER UNIT INVITATION TO TENDER NO. 13/87

JPMC announces the invitation to TENDER NO. 13/87 for 40,000 metric tonnes of wet aluminium hydroxide.

The tender documents are available at JPMC offices in Amman, Supply Department. Application for documents should be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of JD 50 for each set of tender documents.

The closing date for submission tenders is 12:00 noon, local time, Thursday Dec. 10, 1987.

Wasef Azar
Managing Director

THE Daily Crossword by Malvin Kenworthy

ACROSS	1 Most faulty	14 Rugged ridge	23 Slangy	32 Moslem prince	41 Bright	48 Not a	53 Gang	58 Listen
2 Fictional	15 Atmospheric	24 Attitudinize	33 Stagnant	42 Not a	49 Not a	54 Gang	59 Compare	64 Color
3 Detective	16 Pace	25 Cabal item	34 Slangy	43 Not a	50 Not a	55 Gang	60 Compare	
4 Rugged ridge	17 Cabal item	26 Before ten	35 Slangy	44 Not a	51 Not a	56 Gang	61 Compare	
5 Atmospheric	18 "— boy!"	27 Arrest	36 Slangy	45 Not a	52 Not a	57 Gang	62 Compare	
6 Pace	19 "— boy!"	28 Arrest	37 Slangy	46 Not a	53 Not a	58 Gang	63 Compare	
7 Rugged ridge	20 Arrest	29 Arrest	38 Slangy	47 Not a	54 Not a	59 Gang	64 Compare	
8 Atmospheric	21 Arrest	30 Arrest	39 Slangy	48 Not a	55 Not a	60 Gang		
9 Pace	22 Arrest	31 Arrest	40 Slangy	49 Not a	56 Not a	61 Gang		
10 Cabal item	23 Arrest	32 Arrest	41 Slangy	50 Not a	57 Not a	62 Gang		
11 "— boy!"	24 Arrest	33 Arrest	42 Slangy	51 Not a	58 Not a	63 Gang		
12 "— boy!"	25 Arrest	34 Arrest	43 Slangy	52 Not a	59 Not a	64 Gang		
13 Arrest	26 Arrest	35 Arrest	44 Slangy	53 Not a	60 Not a			
14 Rugged ridge	27 Arrest	36 Arrest	45 Slangy	54 Not a	61 Not a			
15 Atmospheric	28 Arrest	37 Arrest	46 Slangy	55 Not a	62 Not a			
16 Pace	29 Arrest	38 Arrest	47 Slangy	56 Not a	63 Not a			
17 Cabal item	30 Arrest	39 Arrest	48 Slangy	57 Not a	64 Not a			
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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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Canada slaps provisional duty on Hyundai cars

OTTAWA (R) — Canada announced on Tuesday it would put a high import tariff on South Korea's popular Hyundai cars after a preliminary investigation found they were being dumped on the market at unfairly low prices.

A spokesman for the Federal Department of Revenue and Customs said at current prices the duty would result in a 36 per cent price increase on the cars.

Hyundai, one of South Korea's largest industrial companies, exported 70,000 cars to Canada last year, down from 79,000 in 1985 but well above the 25,000 in 1984. Hyundai cars have been big sellers in the United States as well.

The decision follows an investigation into a complaint last July made by General Motors Corp. of Canada Ltd. and Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd.

The Canadian import tribunal now will investigate whether the imports are causing material injury to Canadian manufacturers. It has 120 days to conduct the inquiry.

The Department of Revenue and Customs must decide within 90 days to make a final determination of dumping or terminate the investigation.

The import duties are temporary while the investigations take place.

The Canadian subsidiary, Hyundai Auto Canada Inc., said it was "confident that once the (government) has had an opportunity to study and analyse all available data in greater detail, the finding of the determination will be more favourable ..."

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.7888/98	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3085/95	Canadian dollar
	1.6720/27	West German marks
	1.8825/35	Dutch guilders
	1.3725/35	Swiss francs
	34.95/98	Belgian francs
	5.6725/50	French francs
	1229/1231	Italian lire
	134.90/135.00	Japanese yen
	6.0410/60	Svensk crowns
	6.4100/50	Norwegian crowns
	6.4500/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	475.60/476.10	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices were lower in quiet afternoon business, reflecting profit-taking on the gains so far this week and because of the weakness Wednesday morning in the dollar, dealers said.

By 1533 GMT, the FTSE 100 share index was down 22.6 points to 1,666.5 after an earlier low of 1,659.9 at 1429 GMT. Share volume at 1500 GMT was an extremely light 261.4 million.

The dollar fell earlier on worries that last week's budget-cutting agreement might not be enough to promote exchange rate stability. The currency later rallied on comments from the West German finance minister, but this failed to boost shares.

Gerhard Stoltenberg said West Germany would soon decide measures to strengthen its economy which will go beyond those agreed in last February's Louvre Accord.

But dealers here are sceptical that the Group of Seven industrialised nations will meet to formulate a currency and interest rate stabilisation pact before the New Year.

Opinion here holds that U.K. interest rates will not fall before a G-7 meeting. Such a meeting seems unlikely before the New Year as ratification of last Friday's budget deficit cutting package may not take place before Christmas.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Fichter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: There may be some delays in your attempt to get a new project under way, but don't lose your temper. Try to deal with these hindrances objectively. Don't rely on others to do your work for you.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be sure to listen to any advice given to you by an acquaintance with a tried and true track record. Plan your schedule carefully today.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A demanding associate may try to distract you from your schedule. This is not a malicious action, so try to be understanding of this person.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) If you have an urge to digress from your regular routine, do so with an open mind and enjoy yourself. Attend to civic commitments.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Be sure you know your financial situation before making any plans for this evening. Pay attention to your health.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Don't be hurt by something a friend says. It is meant only constructively, and if you want to think about it, this is some good advice to follow.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 23) Invest in some modern conveniences

for your home which will, in the long run, pay for themselves. Dress very nicely this evening.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) If you put yourself in the shoes of your associates, you'll have a better understanding of their motivations. Be open-minded tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Don't get egotistical about a talent you possess. Postpone a recreation you had planned for today. Be cautious in motion of any kind.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't allow any long-range projects today. Instead, take care of some duties which can be handled quickly and efficiently.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Visit with some friends who tend to always look on the bright side of life. If you let this attitude rub off on you, you'll benefit greatly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) This is not a good time to become involved in any social activities. You would be better off staying home and enjoying some rest.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Your ideas and hunches are right on target today, so don't let anyone sway your opinions. Steer clear of annoying and mental chores.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Reexamine your associations today to those of your friends who have optimistic and cheerful attitudes. Later today you'll take notice of some new recreation. Get involved in this and enjoy yourself.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Someone may be pressuring you to keep a promise, but it's not imperative that you immediately do so. Wait until you have the time.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't become involved in an altercation between a superior and an associate, and don't let it disrupt your schedule or peace of mind.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You've noticed an opportunity for advancement, but have not acted on it as yet. Now is the time to seize the bull by the horns.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Forget that recreational activity you have in mind. Now is the time to make some definite plans for advancement in business.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A family friend and a new business associate may get into an argument, but don't assume that it's your duty to be the peacemaker.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 23) Spend lightly at home today. A

volatile situation there could erupt in your face unless you control your temper and use tact and wisdom.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) Don't argue with a friend over money. There's a good chance that the disagreement is a result of a misunderstanding between you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Don't rely on your preconceived opinions about a close family friend. You may be totally wrong about this person's intentions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Think along more modern lines and you can make much better progress. Be sure that you drive with the utmost care this evening.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Don't allow a friend to distract you and waste some valuable time. Keep your nose to the grindstone and your shoulder to the wheel.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't give in to any unreasonable demands which might be made of you. Show some extra affection to your loved ones tonight.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Keep busy at home-improvement activity you've been working on. Going off on crazy tangents would be unfortunate today.

Industrial shares continue high rally at Amman Financial Market

Sector	Number of shares traded	% of total	Volume of trade	% of total	Number of contracts	% of total
Banks and financial companies						
1984	1,135,784	58	2,409,227	59	1,835	34
1985	1,631,807	59	6,150,280	84	2,413	57
1986	1,159,282	40	3,354,376	64	3,196	53
1987	950,544	18	1,878,166	25	1,140	15
Insurance						
1984	122,041	3	112,950	2	158	3
1985	104,225	4	194,362	3	253	6
1986	154,889	5	245,979	5	266	5
1987	268,623	5	700,943	9	444	6
Services						
1984	125,019	4	140,939	3	321	6
1985	367,305	13	188,973	3	208	5
1986	295,753	10	167,904	3	497	8
1987	112,770	2	85,393	1	158	2
Industries						
1984	1,676,907	55	1,451,069	36	3,121	57
1985	652,321	24	757,869	10	1,378	32
1986	1,334,921	45	1,460,770	28	2,036	34
1987	3,999,442	75	4,928,906	65	5,954	77
Grand total						
1984	3,059,751	—	4,114,185	—	5,435	—
1985	2,755,658	—	7,291,484	—	4,252	—
1986	2,944,845	—	5,229,029	—	5,995	—
1987	5,331,379	—	7,593,408	—	7,696	—

The above table compares trading activities that took place at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) during the month of October for the years 1984, 1985, 1986, and 1987. The figures for October 1987 appeared in the AFM's monthly bulletin which was released last week. Volume of trade is given in Jordanian dinars.

Subroto values honesty over audit

JAKARTA (Agencies) — Indonesian Mines and Energy Minister Subroto said on Wednesday there was no cheat-proof system for auditing OPEC's oil production.

Dr. Subroto said the 13 OPEC members had many ways of cheating on their production quotas and therefore it was useless for the group to set up an auditing body.

"If they don't want to be honest, then it's useless to set up this auditing system," Dr. Subroto told a parliamentary hearing.

Oil-industry analysts say the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is producing two million to three million barrels over its overall output limit of 16.5 million barrels a day.

OPEC is expected to discuss hiring an independent auditor to monitor output from its 13 members when the group meets in Vienna next month.

Dr. Subroto, a former president of the oil group said: "There are a thousand and one ways to cheat if we (OPEC) want to cover up our production. So everything depends on us, if we want to be honest or not."

"Indonesia, for instance, has many oil wells spread out in the various islands and they (other OPEC members) couldn't possibly know if Indonesia wanted to

cheat. If we are not honest with ourselves, it is useless to have production audited (by an independent auditor)," he added.

OPEC President Riwanu Lukman said last week the heads of state of the 11 OPEC members he had recently visited had endorsed the idea of independently auditing production.

Dr. Subroto also told the hearing it was highly unlikely OPEC could increase benchmark prices above \$18 a barrel.

"The problem we are facing now is how to maintain the current price level (of \$18 per barrel), because we must not rule out the possibility that prices will go down if an agreement is not reached in the coming meeting," he said.

Dr. Subroto predicted a "very difficult" meeting in Vienna beginning on Dec. 9 if Saudi Arabia and Iran failed to iron out disagreements on output and pricing.

OPEC will try to set production and price levels for 1988 at the meeting.

"I think the possibility of crude prices rising above \$18 per barrel is very small," Dr. Subroto said.

Iran, which some traders say is selling oil at discounted prices, has said it will seek to boost benchmark prices to \$20 per barrel at the meeting, Saudi

Arabia, the group's largest producer, wants to maintain current prices.

Dr. Subroto said oil prices were primarily influenced by stocks held by Western countries and by oil traders responding to the shifting fortunes of the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

"Prices may sky-rocket if the supply from the Gulf is affected by the war," Dr. Subroto said. "On the contrary, if nothing happens there is the danger that prices will go down."

He said Gulf countries other than Iran and Iraq were supplying 6.6 million barrels a day.

Dr. Subroto pointed out that if production from Iran and Iraq were included in the total, Gulf countries accounted for more than 11 million barrels out of OPEC's total of 16.5 million barrels.

Prices could only rise if OPEC tightened production, he said. But given the group's recent experience with quota violations, this could be very difficult, the minister added.

Last week, Dr. Subroto said that getting Iraq to accept its OPEC quota would be one of the main tasks of the Vienna meeting.

Baghdad has refused to accept its 1.5 million-barrel quota because it is smaller than Iran's.

Dollar remains unstable

LONDON (R) — The dollar's brief rally died on Wednesday, and traders say it may take more than Tuesday's European interest rate cuts to send it back up. Pessimism about its prospects also weighed on share values, but boosted gold.

After dropping nearly three pence to an early low in Europe of 1.6590 West German marks, the dollar regained about half its loss and steadied around 1.6720 at noon. It slipped 0.75 yen to trade around 134.75 yen.

Gold, a traditional haven when the dollar weakens, rose \$4.25 an ounce to be fixed on Wednesday morning in London at \$478.75.

London shares dropped 1.5 per cent, with Financial Times Stock Exchange 100-share index down as much as 1.7 per cent, or 28.9 points, to a morning low of 1,660.2. Most other European shares were under pressure but Tokyo closed 1.6 per cent higher.

"We are at a critical point," said a Frankfurt currency dealer. "If we go through it, we could see new lows."

The dollar's slide started in New York after European markets closed on Tuesday, as scepticism about the \$76 billion of budget cuts agreed by the White House and congressional leaders last week deepened.

And, although European took heart from Tuesday's 0.25 percentage point interest rate cuts in West Germany, France and The Netherlands, New York traders' reactions were mixed.

Faster economic growth in Europe, especially West Germany, would keep the deflation-

ary U.S. budget cuts from pushing an already sluggish global economy into a slump, economists say.

That is why the rate cuts set off a short-lived dollar rally on Tuesday and why many investors were encouraged on Wednesday when West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg said in parliament in Bonn the government would soon decide new steps to strengthen the economy.

But many are unsure and growing gloom about what will be the net effect of the U.S. budget cuts and the European response.

One London dealer said: "It's really only indecision that's stopping the dollar from falling further here."

"The budget cuts have done nothing of huge consequence to alter the picture. We still have the trade deficit with no immediate reason to believe that will go away," said Mr. Andrew Ballingall, an analyst with Barclays Bank in Tokyo.

Many investors fear the twin U.S. budget and trade deficits will persist despite last week's budget cutting agreement. Some worry that projected savings in the accord may be over-optimistic, others that Congress will object.

"The market needs to be confident as to what is going to happen

to the dollar and U.S. interest rates," Mr. Ballingall said.

As long as the dollar remains weak, prospects for European and Japanese firms are uncertain at best, many investors fear.

A weak dollar could cut sales of their goods in the United States, and give U.S. competitors and edge in other markets.

So, despite Tuesday's West German and Dutch rate cuts, Frankfurt shares were hardly changed, with the 30-share Boersen-Zeitung index opening up 0.17 points at 290.66, while Amsterdam's CBS all-share index slipped 0.4 to 68.2.

The weaker dollar also depressed Swiss shares, despite lower interest rates there. Madrid stocks were mixed.

Paris, however, firmed. The Bank of France also cut interest rates on Tuesday. Milan's MIB index rose 1.7 per cent.

Most Japanese investors seemed to shrug off the dollar's slide, seeing in Tuesday's interest rate cuts hope of an emerging international approach to easing the strains of last month's stock market crash.

Tokyo's 225-share Nikkei index rose 1.6 per cent or 363.67 points, to 23,219.69, but trading was fairly thin. Hong Kong stocks rose 2.3 per cent, with the Hang Seng index up 49.57 points to close at 2,184.84, while Singapore edged higher.

Australian shares also rose, with Sydney's All Ordinaries index up 2.3 per cent, or 30.4 points, to end at 1,296.4

World Bank to press for new funds to help critically poor African states

WASHINGTON (R) — The World Bank hopes wealthy nations will commit about \$3 billion next week to help the critically poor countries of sub-Saharan Africa, monetary sources said on Tuesday.

The funding, to be discussed at a meeting with officials of wealthy nations in Paris, will help finance the \$1.5 billion needed annually from foreign sources by cash-starved African nations.

The money could go forward by late March or early April once the details on a series of complex cofinancing arrangements can be completed, the sources said.

The effort to obtain new funding for Africa comes at a time of deepening concern that the world economy may be threatened by recession, undercutting the ability of wealthy countries to inject new aid money into Africa.

At the same time, the sources said there is profound worry that economic reform efforts under way in Africa may be short-circuited by insufficient financial support from outside.

The funding meeting, to be held next Thursday and Friday in Paris, is expected to be attended by representatives from the United States, Japan, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, West Germany, Italy,

The Netherlands, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Britain, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Australia and the African Development Bank.

The source said the United States has made clear its budget deficit dilemma precludes new assistance but has said it would be willing to take aid money already budgeted and earmark it to cofinancing arrangements for Africa.

The World Bank is hopeful that Japan, the largest of the surplus countries, will be a main player in the new cofinancing effort, the sources said.

The Paris meeting will discuss cofinancing arrangements under which the World Bank puts up some money and individual countries make up the rest depending on details of the agreement.

"But we are not going to work out these details at this meeting," one source said. "We are only hoping to get an overall commitment from countries so we know what we have to work with."

The World Bank often in the past has used cofinancing deals as one of its tools to assist countries, getting funding not only from wealthy states but from commercial banks.

The sources said the new discussions call for "an important increase in these arrangements."

In arriving at the amount of minimum funding needs for Africa, the World Bank has estimated it will require \$1.5 billion annually from the outside to close a balance-of-payments gap and allow some small growth.

"We are estimating the growth at one per cent on a per capita basis after inflation," the source said.

If the funding does not close the gap, the poorest countries will see further deterioration in their economic situation, increasing political instability and further undermining of efforts at economic reform, the sources said.

The new World Bank effort for Africa is part of a more general initiative by the bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to assist what they call "debt-distressed countries."

It includes the IMF's Structural Adjustment Facility, which helps the very poorest including those in Africa, and the World Bank's Special Facility for Africa, put in place in 1985.

IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus has proposed that the \$4 billion adjustment facility be tripled, which would give broad new assistance to Africa. Discussions between the IMF and possible donor countries are still being held.

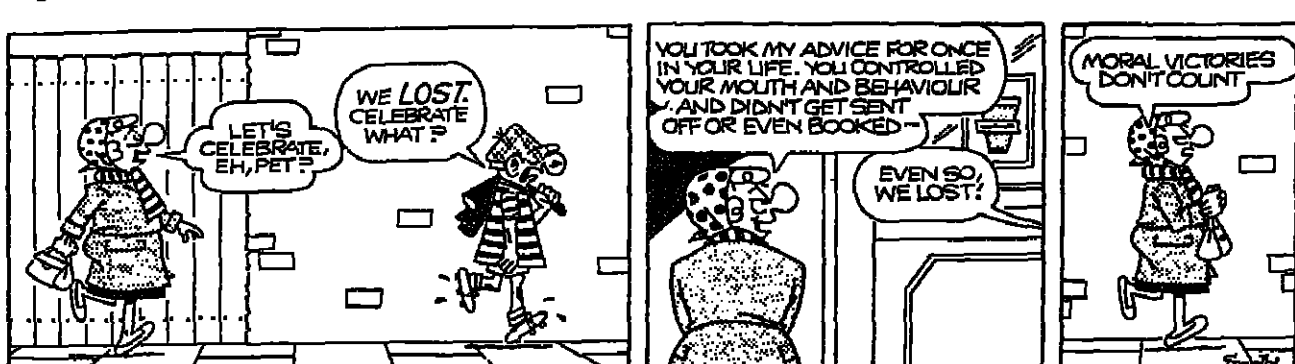
Peanuts



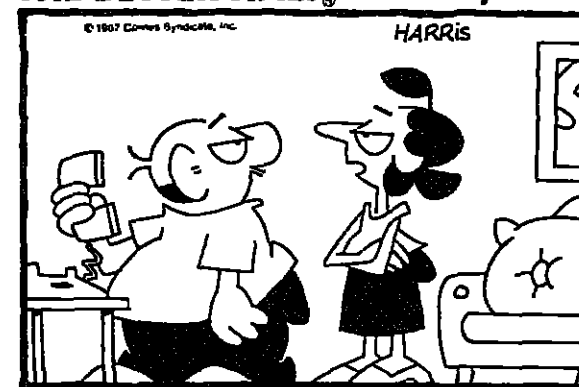
Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

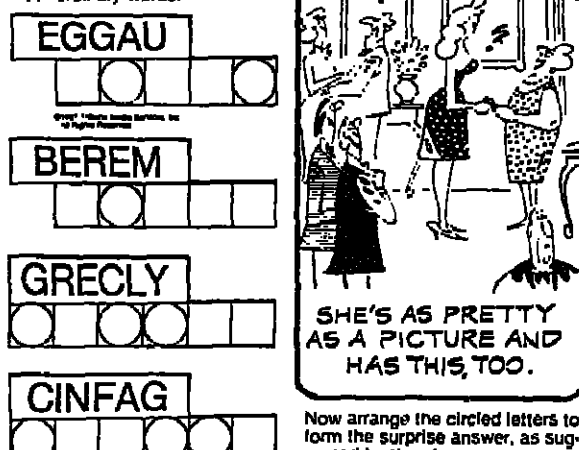


THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print answer here: A

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: RURAL FAVOR UNHOLY EXPEND

Answer: How the cat enjoyed its milk— IN THE "LAP" OF LUXURY

Filipino amnesty programme attracts 5,473 NPA rebels

MANILA (R) — More than 5,000 Communist rebels have surrendered to authorities under the Philippine government's amnesty programme, a cabinet minister said.

Economic Planning Secretary Solita Monsod told reporters on Tuesday that 5,473 surrenders throughout the country had exceeded the government's target of 5,000 up to October this year but that only 453 firearms were recovered from the guerrillas.

However, Brigadier-General Honesto Iseta, chief of the Civil Relations Service of the armed forces, said the surrendering rebels had probably been replaced by new recruits.

A congressman from President Corason Aquino's ruling coalition, meanwhile, called for a Christmas truce during December.

The government launched the national reconciliation and development programme in March following the end of a 60-day ceasefire between the government and the Communist-led National Democratic Front (NDF).

Under the programme, which runs until February 1988, rebels who turn themselves in are given jobs in government-sponsored projects. If they surrender firearms, they are rewarded with the value of the guns.

Mr. Monsod, chairman of the programme, said about 36,000 rebel sympathisers were also given jobs and medical services during the eight-month period.

The military has estimated the strength of the Communist New People's Army (NPA) at 23,600 regulars, only about half of them fully armed.

The Philippine Congress confirmed Vicente Jayme on Wednesday as the country's finance secretary 10 weeks after President Corason Aquino named him to the post.

Sen. Ernesto Maceda, a member of the Commission on Appointments, said objections had been dropped to Mr. Jayme's earlier performance as public works secretary, where he was accused of being over-cautious and not spending a budgeted 4.8 billion pesos (\$214 million) this year.

"I hope he improves," Sen. Maceda said. "His being cautious is not enough ground to reject his appointment."

Mr. Jayme, 58, was named to his post on Sept. 16, a week after Mrs. Aquino's fractious cabinet resigned en masse to allow her to

revamp the government.

Four members of a newly organised anti-Communist vigilante group shot and killed five neighbours and seriously wounded five others, police said Wednesday.

Police said all four suspects were arrested within hours of the shootings, which occurred late Tuesday in a village overlooking this city, 568 kilometres south east of Manila.

Police Sgt. Douglas Gorres said the four men, identified as organisers of a new vigilante group called "neighbourhood guard," shot two men while they were working in their yard, then turned their guns on a nearby group of eight men who were gambling.

"They shot us probably because we refused to join their group," Gorres quoted Edwin Binoya, one of the wounded survivors, as telling investigators.

A Manila newspaper said the renegade colonel who led a bloody coup attempt in August would surrender Wednesday, but the Defence Ministry denied the report.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer quoted military sources as saying Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan had been negotiating through intermediaries and would surrender Wednesday to Defence Secretary Rafael Ilto.

Soviets hopeful on Afghan settlement

NEW DELHI (R) — While hopeful of an early political settlement in Afghanistan, Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov said on Wednesday Pakistan could do more to help.

"What is Pakistan doing to settle that problem?" he asked at a news conference marking the end of his six-day visit to India.

An estimated three million Afghan refugees live in Pakistan and many of the Afghan rebels fighting the Soviet-backed government in Afghanistan are based there.

The Soviet Union has an estimated 115,000 troops in Afghanistan.

Mr. Ryzhkov was speaking only two days before the Afghan Grand Assembly meets in Kabul to debate constitutional changes.

"The Afghan leadership has accepted the idea of a coalition, a multi-party form of government, with a president above all political parties," he said.

He blamed unnamed people for "criticising without giving a positive hand to developments."

But he said: "We still continue to view with optimism prospects for a political settlement of the Afghanistan question."

Moscow wanted to withdraw "the limited Soviet contingent" from Afghanistan, but whether the Afghan leadership would favour this depended on an end to outside interference.

He told a questioner the issue was not solely one of an end to U.S. supplies of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to the Afghan rebels.

Meanwhile Afghan rebels in Pakistan said on Wednesday they were checking reports that Afghan President Najibullah's younger brother Sidiq had defected to their side.

The New York Times, quoting U.S. intelligence reports and foreign diplomats, reported on Tuesday that Sidiq had defected a week ago to rebels led by Ahmad Shah Masood in the Panjshir Valley north of the capital, Kabul.

A spokesman for Jamiat-I-Islami guerrilla party, to which Masood belongs, said the party had not received any information from him about Sidiq's defection.

Nigeria offers ANC military training facilities

LAGOS (Agencies) — Nigeria said it has offered military training facilities to black nationalists in South Africa.

An official statement on Tuesday said the offer was conveyed to Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress (ANC), by Nigeria's high commissioner in Lusaka.

The ANC is the largest guerrilla group fighting white domination in South Africa.

During a visit to Lagos last December, Mr. Tambo said he appealed to Nigerian President General Ibrahim Babangida for military assistance and his mission had been successful.

The statement said the decision to offer the ANC military training facilities was in keeping with Nigeria's commitment to the anti-apartheid struggle.

The offer was in addition to material and political support Nigeria has already extended to the ANC, it added.

South Africa said Tuesday that ANC guerrillas are planning a "large scale" infiltration through Botswana in the coming weeks.

The government said in a statement that ANC leaders recently met with Botswana officials and sought permission to use the territory as a transit route into South Africa.

Botswana, South Africa's landlocked northern neighbour, has

long been critical of white led government and its apartheid policies of legalised race segregation. But Botswana maintains that it does not allow ANC guerrillas to launch attacks from its territory.

The outlawed ANC, based in Lusaka, Zambia, wages a bombing and sabotage campaign in its effort to overthrow the South African government.

"Every reason exists to believe the Botswana government is informed of the ANC's plans to commit acts of terror in South Africa via Botswana territory in coming weeks," the statement said.

"The South African forces are prepared to supply information to their counterparts in Botswana on a confidential basis regarding ANC infiltration routes," it added.

South Africa urged Botswana to take "effective action" against any ANC guerrilla activity in its country.

The Anglican Church of Southern Africa said Tuesday it accepts violence as one of several means to end white domination in South Africa.

The church's Provincial Standing Committee, its top executive body, said it "understood the pressures which have led the liberation movements to respond to violence with violence."

9 Tamil rebels killed in clash after ceasefire

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Nine Tamil rebels died and four were captured in eastern Sri Lanka in the first major clash with Indian peacekeeping troops since a weekend ceasefire ended, Sri Lankan military officials said Wednesday.

The officials said Indian troops attacked two rebel boats Tuesday in the Batticaloa Lagoon near the village of Kiran, about 230 kilometres north east of Colombo, and killed eight rebels of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

Another Tiger committed suicide by swallowing cyanide and four rebels were captured, according to the officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules. There were no Indian casualties, they said.

Indian troops attacked the boats after Tamil rebels tried to ambush troops in a marshy jungle north of the city of Batticaloa earlier Tuesday. The Indians were searching for rebel strongholds after a 48-hour ceasefire ended Monday morning, the officials said.

Tamil residents in Batticaloa contacted by telephone said more than 100 Tamils were later rounded up for questioning by Indian troops in Kiran.

More than 20,000 Indian soldiers are in Sri Lanka to enforce the July 29 Indian-brokered peace accord aimed at ending the 4-year-old civil war. More than 8,500 people have been killed since the Tamil rebels launched their guerrilla war for a separate nation.

COLUMNS 7&8

Picasso engraving sets world record

PARIS (AP) — A Picasso engraving of a crying woman sold at auction for a record-breaking 3.3 million francs (\$590,000), four times higher than ever before paid for an etching, an auction house spokeswoman has said. An anonymous Japanese collector purchased *Le Femme Qui Pleure* (the Crying Woman) at auction Monday night, according to the spokeswoman for Drouot Auctioneers, who requested anonymity in keeping with company policy. The etching, considered a masterpiece of 20th century engraving, is one of 15 similar pieces done by Pablo Picasso as part of his work on the painting *Guernica*. The sad, cubist woman was formerly in the collections of Marina Picasso and Morris Ponto.

Doctor held after pregnant woman dies

ABU DHABI (R) — A British doctor has been arrested after a pregnant woman died in her clinic, Health Ministry sources said on Wednesday. Dr. Marion Williams, a gynaecologist in her sixties, herself called the police after the woman died, the sources said. Silvia George, a 37-year-old Lebanese, was four weeks pregnant and died on Monday following an operation, they said. The doctor worked at a government hospital for more than five years before she started her own clinic. No cause of death had yet been established, the sources said. No charges have been filed pending the completion of the forensic report, they added.

Baby swap discovered after 4 years

PEKING (AP) — A court has awarded a total of 3,553 yuan (\$960) to two couples whose baby boys were switched at a hospital four years ago, the China Daily newspaper reported Wednesday. The report said a nurse misidentified Cheng Wenjian and Li Hui, who were born within days of each other in September 1983. The mistake was discovered this year when Cheng's aunt went to work at a kindergarten attended by both boys, the newspaper said. The aunt noticed the strong resemblance between her brother and Li Hui and blood tests confirmed the switch. The boys will remain with their current parents until they get to know their real mothers and fathers better, the report said.

Recluse lived with 2 corpses

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A 77-year-old man who apparently lived for years with the corpses of his sister and aunt believed they were alive and kept cashing their social security and pension checks, a minister said. Carl Forchec's body was found in his home on the city's north west side by a neighbour Friday. He had died of a stroke less than 24 hours before his body was found, an autopsy revealed Saturday. Authorities also found the skeletal remains of his sister, who would have been 94, and his aunt, who would have been 104. One of the women may have died 10 years ago, the other as recently as last spring, authorities said. The Rev. Thomas H. Wyatt of North Liberty Christian Church discussed Forchec, described by the minister as an inactive member of the church at the time of his death, in his sermon Sunday. "He was not ignored," Wyatt said. "Neighbours and friends from the church did help take care of his needs and shopped for his food, when he'd let them." Forchec was apparently incapable of realising his sister and aunt were dead and he fooled church members into thinking the two women were still alive by talking about them frequently, Wyatt said. "In his mind, they were still alive. He may have been talking to them and everything. It was not an intentional theft," said Wyatt of Forchec's cashing the checks.

2 U.S. jet fighters collide in mid-air

ATLANTA (Agencies) — Two high-performance military jet fighters have collided in mid-air in eastern Georgia, the Georgia Department of Defense said.

The aircraft — an F-15 and an F-16 — took off from Dobbins Air Force Base in Marietta, 24 kilometres north west of Atlanta, said Berl Diamond, public affairs officer for the department.

Diamond said the F-15 carrying only the pilot, crashed in Jefferson County, Georgia, near Augusta.

"The F-16 apparently limped back to Dobbins," he said. This aircraft had two persons aboard. A spokesman for Dobbins was uncertain whether the pilots were killed or injured.

Both types of fighters represent advanced technology of the U.S. Air Force.

In a separate development, the

pilot of a powerless jet fighter asked whether he was nearing populated areas moments before his craft crashed into a hotel, but air traffic controllers never replied, according to a tape released Tuesday.

The gliding plane overshot an Indianapolis airport runway on Oct. 20, and U.S. Air Force Maj. Bruce L. Teagarden ejected safely seconds later. Ten people were killed when the plane slammed into a hotel.

Authorities have said that Maj. Teagarden, 35, could not see the ground to tell if his plane was near a populated area because of clouds, and that he did not see the ground until he was about 250 metres above it.

The pilot said on the tape that he was without power and asked controllers to "say if there is any kind of housing area close to me

in case I have to get rid of this thing."

"I can't answer the question as to why that transmission was not responded to," Federal Aviation Administration spokesman David Erickson told reporters after playing the tape at a news conference.

"I don't know what was going through the controller's mind," Mr. Erickson said. He said that would be part of the air force's investigation of the accident.

Mr. Erickson said that when the pilot asked the question he was still over rural land about 13 kilometres south west of the Indianapolis International Airport.

Mr. Erickson said even if the pilot had veered his plane away from the hotel after he overshot the runway, it likely would have hit a warehousing area or a shopping centre — "take your pick."

Opposition plans new strike in bid to topple Ershad

DHAKA (R) — Bangladeshi opposition groups are planning another general strike next week aimed at toppling President Hosain Mohammad Ershad, who has survived two weeks of protests by his political rivals.

As the opposition called on Wednesday for the new strike, nearly 50 home-made bombs packed with metal fragments exploded in Dhaka, the capital city of four million people. No casualties were reported.

Twenty-one opposition parties campaigning for Mr. Ershad's downfall said they would stage a 72-hour national stoppage from 6

a.m. on Sunday, continuing to pressure the president with huge financial losses to the country's fragile economy.

"The new strike is designed to follow up the successful general strikes during the current protests launched on Nov. 10 and to exert pressure on Ershad to resign," they said in a joint statement.

Police said one man was killed at Gazipur near Dhaka shortly before the latest eight-hour instalment of strikes ended Tuesday afternoon, raising the number of people killed in bomb attacks to 11 during the opposition protests.

Rioting Cuban prisoners raid hospital, take more hostages

ATLANTA (R) — Rioting Cubans holding more than 100 hostages in two jails stormed a hospital at one of them and grabbed more captives, prison officials said early on Wednesday.

The Cubans, protesting at plans to deport them, kept control of jails in Atlanta and Oakdale, Louisiana, as efforts to end the mutinies ground to a halt because of splits among the rebel convict leaders.

Officials at Oakdale said hundreds of Cubans were holding 28 hostages, while a spokeswoman for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Washington said early on Wednesday that 93 captives were being held in Atlanta.

"We had five more hostages being released around midnight," she said, adding that two or three others were freed in Atlanta during the day on Tuesday. "They were released by Cubans but at about the same time another group of Cubans took over a hospital with 25 staff members."

Atlanta prison warden Joseph Petrovsky said on Tuesday: "Twelve different individuals or groups presented themselves at various times during the past 18 hours as leaders of the detainees

and each of them has a different set of demands."

Smoke from fires billowed over the massive Atlanta prison and government helicopters buzzed overhead, dropping water bombs to extinguish the flames where nearly 1,400 Cubans were holding the hostages.

A Cuban prisoner was shot dead in the riot that began at Atlanta on Monday, two days after Cuban detainees at Oakdale started fires and took hostages there.

Negotiations appeared to get a boost on Monday when U.S. Attorney-General Edwin Meese offered a moratorium on deportations if the hostilities ceased but by Tuesday the talks with the Atlanta inmates were at a standstill.

Buses loaded with American prisoners who had turned themselves in for protection and some Cubans believed to have not been part of the uprising left the Atlanta jail on Tuesday.

Cubans mutinied to protest at their proposed deportation under an agreement reached with Cuba last Friday under which 2,700 criminal or mentally ill refugees would be returned home.

Violence continues days before Haitian elections

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — Political violence spread in Haiti on Tuesday, only five days before the nation's first presidential elections in 30 years, as three people were killed and street gangs fired random shots and set fires.

Soldiers shot and killed one of six gunmen attempting to burn a supermarket near the headquarters of presidential candidate Marc Bazin on Tuesday morning, witnesses said.

They said the gang returned later to recover the body, which was found later in front of the political office of another candidate, Gerard Gourges, a former justice minister who founded Haiti's Human Rights League in 1978.

In another incident, a group of angry citizens hacked a man to

death as he tried to set fire to the Croix Des Boussales Market, Haiti's largest market. On Monday armed men torched and burned to the ground the Salomon Market, the third largest in Haiti.

At midday on Tuesday about 20 men armed with M-16 machineguns walked through downtown Port-Au-Prince, kicking over merchants' tables and shooting at random, wounding several and killing one man, police said.

The violence began on Nov. 2 after the Provisional Electoral Council barred 12 of 35 presidential candidates for being active supporters or members of the regime of ousted former President Jean Claude Duvalier.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Extension

RAHI RAHI!
By Harold B. Counts

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1. Power
2. Slight
3. Possessive
4. Into
5. Confusion
6. By
7. Travel
8. Distance
9. Crown
10. Less
11. Lesson
12. Team
13. Supporter
14. US
15. Rafter
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17. Fidelity
18. Choked
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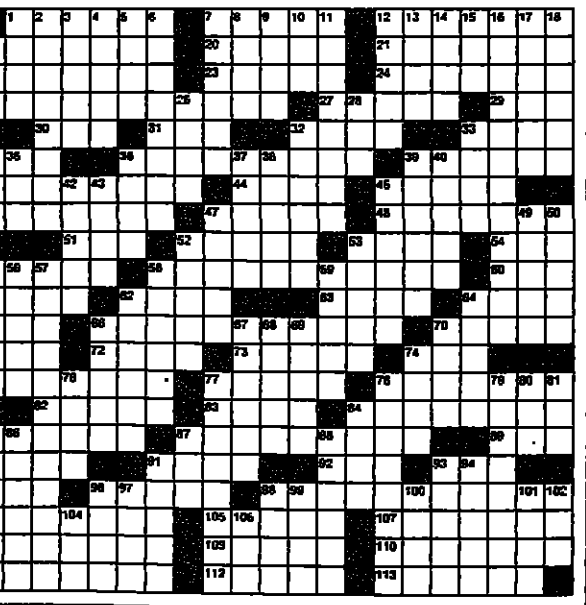
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Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Smokers are losing their so-called rights, luckily benefiting not only themselves but a vast number of those around them.
2. Poor cots dealer sold old pewee to collector for piece of apple pie.
3. Thicket shatter should not have ventured near thin ice at all.
4. Witty punster calls a wildly painted hobby horse a punk rocker.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. NCTLLIFVBL QTVYBII YIFE VSWYI PEXWGI
MVQO IOVP CTX Y OYRGVBL BEBIBWVWJ
VB FITG GYML
—By Gordon Miller

2. QDBDFGP XGFHMXMTYQ ATNPD CAMELOQ
TS OLD FTYAR OGNPD CADZ LTZ OT LGBD
SYA GAR HYO G EGPFGAO SGXD TA MO
—By Cosmik Rosefield

3. LAZY-SZTREM URTOU LOOSOW XZ WUZYLO
RE RYL NRM AZEM NOW
—By Barbara J. Rugg

4. I RATE STEW AR "PH SHEY WRY ADS, WRY
RORE" WRIP AR RORE ADSSRI
—By Len Sherry

